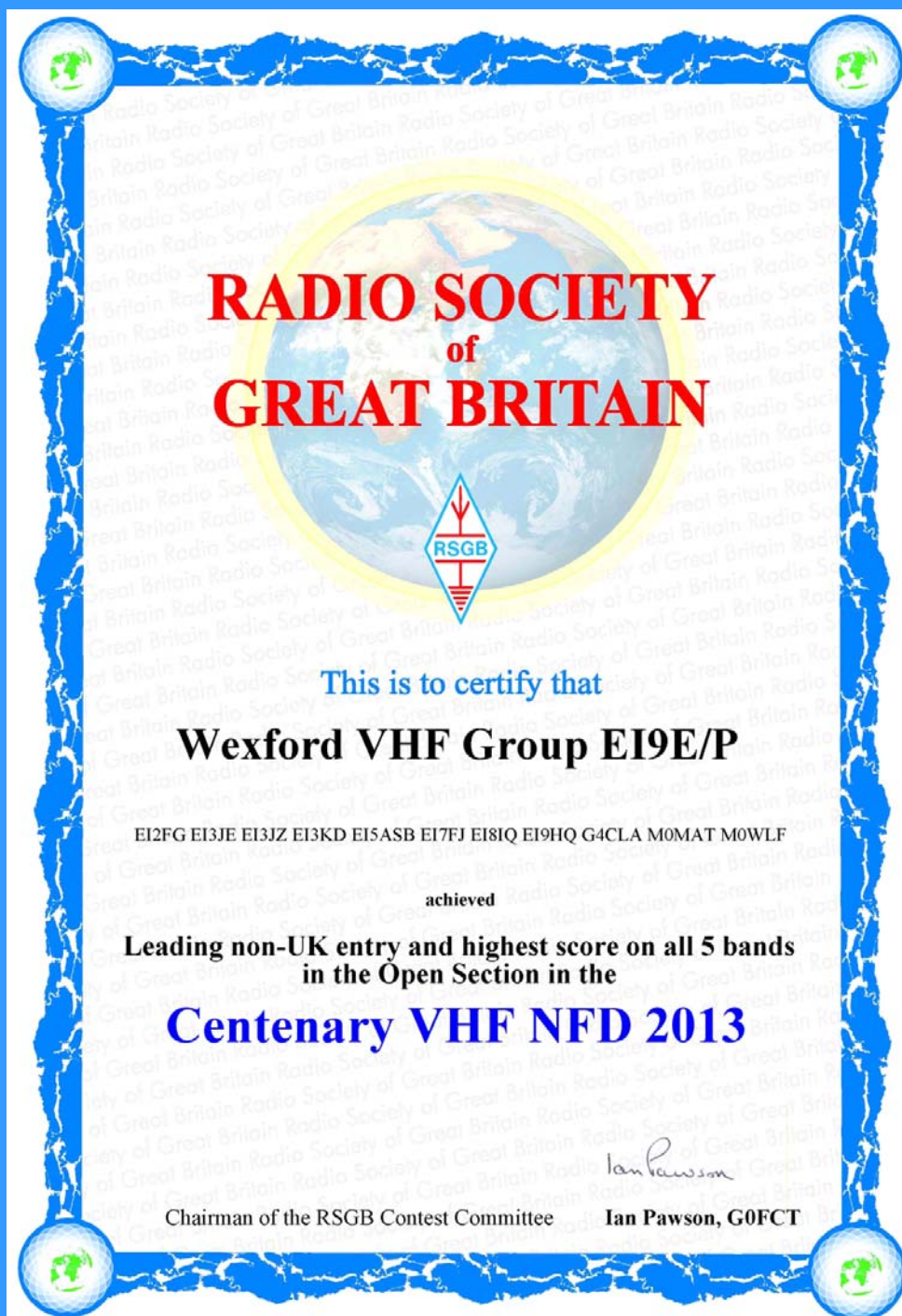




ECHO IRELAND

Journal of the
Irish Radio Transmitters Society

October 2013



Congratulations to the members of the Wexford VHF Group on their outstanding achievement. In addition to being the leading station overall in the Open Section, EI9E/P was also the leading station in each of the five bands and is awarded no less than SIX certificates.

This success does not come overnight. For founding member Billy McLoughlin EI7FJ (pictured above) this was his thirty-second consecutive VHF Field Day and it was icing on the cake to be triumphant in the RSGB's Centenary Contest.



John Tait EI7BA
First EI to achieve ARRL DXCC
CW Honor Roll
See page 33 for full DXCC Listings

Mayo Rally, Welcome Inn, Castlebar
November 17th

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Brian Canning EI8IU
Ken O'Brien EI9EL

Silent Keys

John Kelly EI9HN

John Kelly, EI9HN, passed away on 16th August in Moycullen nursing home.

He was an ex chairman of GREC and will be sadly missed.

Lord have mercy on him

Robert W. Shaw EI2EL

The death was recently announced of Robert Shaw EI2EL of Dublin Road, Longford.

We express our deepest sympathy to his wife Noline and to his other family members on their sad loss.

**Input for Echo Ireland
to
ei4bz@eircom.net**

087-6290574

**40 Metre News Frequency
is now 7123kHz**

1100 Sundays

When is my membership due for renewal?

Your membership renewal date is shown on the wrapper in which the newsletter is posted – above the name and address. For those who receive Echo Ireland by electronic distribution, the renewal date is included in the email alert sent when a new issue is published.

Members who pay by direct debit will see “(DD)” after the renewal date.

Use www.irts.ie/renew to renew your membership at any time; you can also renew at a Rally, or by sending your annual subscription directly to the IRTS Treasurer.

Please renew early to keep our postage and other costs down.

Membership is extended by 12 months from the normal renewal date whenever a payment is received.

Joe Ryan, Membership Records Officer
memrecords@irts.ie

Silent Key

Tomás Ó Canainn EI7AV

Tomás EI7AV, ages 82, passed away in the Mercy Hospital, Cork on September 15th 2013.

Born in Barry Street in Derry in 1930, he emigrated to England after studying Electrical Engineering in Queens University in Belfast.

He spent a number of years working in industry before doing a PhD in Liverpool and he went on to lecture there.



He was a founder member of the Liverpool Ceili Band and played accordion with them when they won the All Ireland Ceili Band competition in 1863 and 1964.

He also won an All Ireland title himself, playing the uilleann pipes.

He was an accomplished musician on accordion and uilleann pipes and a noted composer and writer. He was founder member of the very successful group Na Fíli with fiddler Matt Cranitch and whistle player Tom Barry and they travelled widely in Europe and America in the seventies.

He came to Cork to lecture at UCC in 1961 and became Dean of Engineering. While there studied for a music degree under Séan Ó Riada.

After Mr Ó Riada's death in 1971, he gave lectures in both traditional Irish music and in engineering.

He taught uilleann pipes for many years at the Cork School of Music.

He was a composer of original compositions for choirs and he composed three masses in Irish.

He adjudicated at the Oireachtas and at Fleadh Ceoil all over Ireland.

He was the author of a number of books on traditional music and poetry, as well as writing two novels and a biography of Mr Ó Riada.

He was a music critic for the Cork Examiner for many years and for the Irish Times on southern music events.

He was a gifted linguist, speaking Irish, Polish, Japanese, Spanish and Greek.

He was President of the Cork County Board of Comhaltas Coeltoirí Éireann at the time of his death.

While his interest in Amateur Radio was always there, his was not too active in recent years but did keep in touch with the latest happenings in the hobby.

He was active on HF and on the local repeaters.

He is survived by his wife Helen and daughters Nuala, Úna and Naimh to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

News Bulletins and Readers

Sunday

Dublin	1100	7.123	SSB	Sean EI7CD, Ger EI4GXB
Wicklow	1130	3.680	SSB	(as Gaeilge) Paddy EI7GK, Danny EI6GS
Dublin	1145	145.525	FM	Tony EI5EM, John EI7JG, Frank EI6EF, Liam EI3HK
Clare	1200	3.650	SSB	Ger EI4GXB, Sean EI7CD
Mayo	2000	145.600 - 433.450 - 70.375 - 50.450	FM	John EI7IQ, Padraic EI9JA, Jimmy EI2GCB
Tipperary	2030	145.450	FM	Tommy EI2IT, John EI2JB, Andy EI5JF, Eddie EI3FFB

Monday

Cork	2000	145.750	FM	Vincent EI7HN
Limerick	2000	145.725	FM	Brian EI9AL, Simon EI7ALB, Gerry EI3JU, Ger EI4GXB
Louth	2000	145.675		Thos EI2JD, Anthony EI2KC, Jim EI2HJB

Tuesday

Waterford	2130	145.650	FM	David EI6GVB
North Cork	2000	430.925	FM	Lisa EI9GSB

Silent Key Denis EI8HM

We regret to inform you of the death on Tuesday September 10th in Our Lady's Hospice Harold's Cross, Dublin of Denis Ryan EI8HM. Denis's wife Vera had been ill for some time and only died on 28th August. Denis was quite active on the air up to a few years ago particularly on two metres in the Dublin area.



He was in his 95th year. He will be sadly missed by his family and his many friends..To his daughter Mary and to his sons Denis, Richard and Eamonn and to his wider family we extend our sincerest sympathy. May he rest in peace.

Recent visitors to EI4GXB's Shack



Ger with Bill K8ZCT & Jon WA9JBR both from Ohio



Dave EI9FBB, John EI2FG, John EI7BA



Ger with Pete KA0PHD from Crystal, Minnesota.



Thos EI2JD

Mark EI9IB



EJ5KF on Bere Island



North Cork Rally 2013
Lisa EI9GSB, Anthony EI3GAB, Edwin EI2HEB
Jordan SWL

International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend

Limerick Radio Club Returns to Loop Head

Using the call sign EI0LHL, Limerick Radio Club members returned to Loop Head for the IL&LW on Saturday and Sunday the 16th to 17th August.

Thanks to Liam EI4GB and Tom EI5CA who provided transport for the heavy gear including masts and antenna. Weather conditions were perfect on Friday evening for the erection of the masts and antenna, but that suddenly changed during the night when a very strong south westerly with heavy rain took hold.

Luckily all the effort in securing the masts and antenna paid off as all that was required on Saturday morning was to tighten a few stays.

Two stations were operated; the main one in the Light Keepers watch room, the second station, which was located in the lighthouse, was aimed at the public in the hope of recruiting new members to the hobby and in particular to Limerick Radio Club.

The public could see an amateur station in operation and also listen to live traffic. Alan EI8EM provided a selection of his vast collection of QSL cards. Hand-outs and application forms were made available to the public.

Antenna used were: Cushcraft A4S, G5RV, 80m & 40m dipoles. The ICOM-756PRO club rig was used in the Lighthouse and Ger's, EI4GXB Yaesu FT2000 in the Light Keepers watch-room.

Logging was done using Win-EQF.

Bands worked were: 15m, 17m, 20m, 30m, 40m, and 80m - conditions were very variable with 40 & 80 very difficult.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| • Total QSOs | 904 |
| • Unique Callsign | 865 |
| • Voice | 61% |
| • CW | 39% |
| • IARU Country Count | 63 |

Top Countries worked were USA Germany and Italy

For the first time, the Sunday morning IRTS 80m news was read from Loop Head Lighthouse by Ger EI4GXB.

The club also participated in some extra-curricular activities of which more a-non from Liam EI7DSB.

Once again the club is grateful to Clare County Council through the Director of Services, Ger Dollard and to the Commissioners of Irish Lights for granting permission to operate from Loop Head.

Thanks to LRC members who made it a very enjoyable and successful weekend:

Ger EI4GXB, Brendan EI0CZ, Mike EI2IX, Liam EI7DSB, Alan EI8EM, Dermot EI2GT, Tom EI5CA and Simon EI7ALB.



LRC at Shannon AirVenture Air Display

LRC members turned out on Sunday 25th August for the Shannon AirVenture air display.

A G5RV was erected on the Saturday evening in very poor weather conditions by Paddy EI8GY, SWL Colm and Simon EI7ALB.

Operators on the day were Paddy EI8GY, Tony EI2AW, Brian EI9AL, Simon EI7ALB and Ger EI4GXB who scored another first by transmitting the 80m news from the AirVenture centre.

Roderic Mooney EI2P Celebrates 95th Birthday

Roderic Mooney EI2P celebrates his 95th birthday on the 26th of October.

He has been involved with amateur radio since 1937 and is still a keen enthusiast and very involved in keeping up to date with the latest technology and has recently taken delivery of some high tech equipment.

His call sign is one of the earliest in the country and he must be the oldest member of the IRTS.

He is living in Enniskerry with XYL, Kathleen, and they celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary in January.

He left school in July 1936 and remembers it was on the day the Spanish Civil War broke out. Shortly after that he got his licence but had to get his father to sign for it as he was under age. In those days you were not considered an adult until you were 21. Over the years he hosted and participated in many field days and has made good friends through his life long enthusiasm for amateur radio.

Roderic and Kathleen have six children and nine grandchildren.

W. A. C		A R R L	
I R T S		E i 2 P	
Roderic D. Mooney,		To	
"Aughnacloy,"		Radio	
Killiney,			
Co. Dublin,		Your	M/c. Phone,
Ireland.		QSA	QRK
		at	hours GMT/BST
Pse/Tnx QSL		Date	
Vy 73 es DX			



Roderic and Kathleen at the IRTS 75th Jubilee Dinner

Avondhu Radio Club EI1E



Officers of the new Avondhu Club:

Chairman - Gerard Scannell EI5KF;

Treasurer - Jim Ryan EI5GG

Secretary - Denis O'Flaherty EI4KH

A new radio club has been formed in the North East area of County Cork.

Avondhu Radio Club (EI1E) has been formed to serve Amateur Radio interests in the "Avondhu" area.

This covers Fermoy, Mitchelstown, Rathcormac, Watergrasshill, Kilworth, Ballyhooly & Castletownroche.

Their inaugural event was SSB Field Day on the first weekend of September from the village of Rathcormac and the operators were Gerard Scannell EI5KF, Jim Ryan EI5GG, Denis O'Flaherty EI4KH.

Eight other invited visitors attended at the event and they all found the station very interesting.

Young Robert, age 12, was part of EI1E's 1st QSO with N2JUS before the contest started and is eager to visit again.

Their focus will be on the IRTS contest calendar and field events.

Limerick Radio Club IOTA 2013 Inisheer

On the Thursday the 18th July the following members of Limerick radio club set out for Inisheer, the smallest of the Aran islands: Simon EI7ALB, Tom EI5CA, Paddy EI8GY, Tony EI9IL, David EI2GGB, John EI6IW, Colm SWL and Brendan EI0CZ.

Tony EI9IL provided the bus to transport equipment and personnel to Doolin in Co. Clare.

On arrival in Doolin they found the ferry couldn't dock due to low tide so they had to load all equipment on to a small boat to carry them to the ferry anchored in the bay.

They set up station in the local national school which is close to the local runway (Aer Arann fly into on a regular basis) The station consisted of Icom 756pro and the antennas were a 3 element Yagi (A4s), a Gap vertical to cover the lower bands and G5RV as standby antenna. The antennas were kept at about 35 feet due to the close proximity to the runway Apart from Brendan EI0CZ, none of the other operators ever took any part in a contest previously

After a short discussion they decided to have one person operate the rig and the second operator to do the logging (no multiplier station). Tom used his straight key and Brendan used his Begali key and by the end of the contest they had made 730 QSOs

Thanks is due to Simon for organising everything (lots of phone calls and hard work) and to Paddy and Tony for all the lovely food.

Conditions were poor, not too many west bound stations worked but before the contest David managed to break through a pile up and work a VK8 station.

Visitors were Alan EI8EM and his good wife Breda.

The group would like to thank Sean EI4GK, Dave EI9FBB and their two friends for taking the time to visit and it was much appreciated.

They look forward to the next one and hope the WX is as good

EI0CZ



EI0CZ, EI5CA, EI6IW



EI8GY and EI9IL



Colm SWL and Dave EI2GGB





HF Happenings

with Anthony Murphy EI2KC

It has been a quiet summer in this shack, and indeed many other shacks around the country. The main cause was probably the beautiful weather, with the hot spell in July driving people out of the radio shack and onto the beach.

Hopefully, some of you got the opportunity to enjoy some nice portable work from the beach or some other alternative QTH, basking in the sunshine, sipping on a pina colada!

Of course the other reason for the lack of activity on radio was down to the intransigently poor conditions on HF, which have persisted pretty much unabated right through the summer.

In the past four months, I have made just a dozen QSOs on the 12 metre band, and just a couple on 10 metres.

This is unbelievably poor, considering we should have been right at the top of a solar peak. If the sun had been behaving normally, we could have expected fantastic openings on 10 metres every day of the summer. But that band's been a very poor performer, although the usual openings into South America in the afternoon and evening are a hallmark of 28 MHz that seem to persist despite the low sunspot numbers.

6 Metres

To make up for the lack of action on HF, there was some decent activity on 6 metres (50 MHz).

I nabbed seven new DXCC on that band, bringing my total number of countries worked there to 79. So still 21 off the century, and still a long way to go. However, it certainly made up for the lack of new ones on HF, where I nabbed only three since writing my last column.

The new ones on 6m included Kazakhstan, British Virgin Isles, St. Martin and Corsica. Kazakhstan was one of the most interesting. I had been listening on his QRG for about an hour before he finally came up out of the noise. After I worked him I took a scan through the band only to find he was the only signal on the whole band!

HF had its ups and downs, and a lack of big DXpeditions during the summer will hopefully be made up in the forthcoming winter, during which there are several major DXpeditions planned, with several rare entities being activated.



EI3KE

The joys of home-brewing antennas

This month I want to feature the home-brew antennas of Seamus Campbell, EI3KE, as an example of what can be achieved to all those who are perhaps limited for space and/or money. Some of Ireland's top achieving DXers in recent times have included those who are performing phenomenally well with small antennas from restrictive locations.

I believe Seamus is well on his way to joining those ranks with antennas that he has built relatively cheaply himself. Seamus, who lives near the beach at Clogherhead, County Louth, was originally licenced in 1993 with the callsign EI8IA. Due to work commitments, he left the hobby in 1996, but in 2011 he found himself unemployed with a lot of time on his hands, so he decided to come back into the hobby, with a new callsign, EI3KE.

"With money scarce, I bought an old Yaesu FT-1000MP transceiver and put up a full-size G5RV," Seamus told HF Happenings. "Next, I purchased a multi-band vertical by Diamond, a BB7V, costing €400.00. What a waste of money that was. The G5RV performed better."

His QTH is beautiful, right beside the beach, with views of Clogherhead and the Cooley and Mourne mountains.

"My QTH is ideal for DXing. My house is right on the beach just outside Clogherhead village. I tell people that I am so close to the beach that when the tide comes in I have to leave home Hi Hi."

"With my G5RV and my Yaesu FT-1000MP (which spent more time in the repair shop than in my shack, which is a long story!) putting out 100 watts, I reached 170 countries worked. Not bad going."

"Still unemployed and with money tight, I started to think about what I could do to improve my station without costing a fortune. I went to get some advice from my good friend Thos EI2JD and he suggested building a wind-up mast to get my G5RV higher. Thos and I paid a visit to the local engineering works with a rough drawing of my new mast."

"The owner of the engineering firm suggested a lot of improvements to the design and what started at €250 ended up costing €850. It was more than I intended to spend, but what came out of the workshop was brilliant – a free-standing 25-



(Continued from page 8)

foot mast which could wind up to 48 feet.”

With the mast in the ground, his next project was to build some antennas that would not cost a fortune.

“I searched the internet and came across a five-band inverted V dipole covering 40 metres, 30m, 20m, 15m and 10m, so I decided to have a go at building it. Another good friend, Seamus EI4KE, donated the wire.”

This is when Pat EI2HX (who writes the HX Files column in this publication) started helping.

“Between us, we built the inverted V fan dipole. I was amazed at how well this antenna performed. Soon, I was getting more countries and building up my DXCC.”

“Next Pat EI2HX arrived with a load of antenna books. After more pots of tea and a lot of reading and discussion, the next project was decided. More wire dipoles. I decided on the AZ Special, which was designed by K3AZ and featured in the 1975 edition of CQ magazine. This antenna covered the same bands but was running in the opposite direction from the inverted V so this would give me more range.”

“After this antenna was built I found it was not performing as good as it should. It worked well on 20 metres and 15 metres but the other bands were not as good, so I had to think of a way of improving it. I came up with the idea of a 4-1 balun. When built, all the bands came into play and I was getting great results.”

“What to do next. I had nothing for top band, so my next project was a 160m doublet. Pat EI2HX and I measured and cut two lengths of wire 135ft each and I built another 4-1 balun and fed this antenna with 50 ohm coax. When attached to an external tuner, this antenna tuned on all bands. Inside two to three weeks, my DXCC total went from 170 countries to 194 countries.”

Seamus has since increased his tally to 197, and is now just three off the 200 mark.

“It just goes to show what you can do with wire antennas and 100 watts,” he said.

And Seamus hasn’t finished building antennas yet!

“Pat EI2HX and myself have started building a hexbeam. Pat provided the

material for the base plate. Kevin EI5JG did the welding on the base plate, and I am now waiting for the spreaders. If all goes well, I should be up and running in a couple of weeks. Looking forward to this one. “

“The author of this column, Anthony EI2KC, has donated an antenna handbook and I have another project in mind for when I finish the hexbeam.

I must give a special thank you to all who helped and I must mention that I have just taken delivery of a Yaesu FL-2100Z amplifier to make DXing easier. “

“I used to be frustrated listening to the local DXers working exotic stations and I was not even hearing them. Not any more! Happy DXing!”



Here are just some of the QSOs EI3KE has made with his home-brew antennas: Aruba P43E, 20m CW; Gabon TR8CA, 10m CW; Djibouti J28VS, 10m CW; Falkland Island VP8LP, 12m SSB; Papua New Guinea P29FR, 17m SSB; South Korea HL3AKL, 20m SSB; Loas XW0YJY, 15m SSB; Vietnam XV2JJ, 20m SSB; Dominica J79TW, 20m SSB; Saint Barthelemy FJ/FS5PL, 20m SSB; Brunei V85XD, 30m CW; St. Martin FS5PL, 20m SSB; Cayman Islands ZF2MB, 20m CW; Bangladesh S27SER, 20m SSB; Cote d'Ivoire TU5DF, 15m CW; Panama HP0INT/3, 17m SSB; Angulia VP2ETE, 12m SSB; Reunion Island FR4PV, 15m CW; Mauritius 3B8CF, 15m SSB.

Recent DX

With poor propagation, good weather and lack of DXpeditions, it was a quiet summer in many a shack. So this section won't be very comprehensive.

Probably the best action and one of the most sought-after activations over the summer was Myanmar.

Zorro JH1AJT was active on two separate occasions as XZ1Z during humanitarian visits to this rare entity.

By the time his second activation in September was completed, a total of 19 EIs had made it into his log. Congrats to everyone who made it through sustained pile-ups and the disconcerting QRM which plagued the operation.

Well done in particular to Ark EI9KC on five slots and Michal EI3KG on four.

A number of you managed two slots, and many of us were happy with just the one! At the time of going to press, there is news of a major ten-day DXpedition to Myanmar in mid November, with three to four stations on the air, 24 hours, 160 – 10m, CW/SSB/Digi.

Highlights

Here are some highlights from the summer months at this shack:

9G5AA Ghana, 17m CW; XW3DT Laos 15m SSB, 17m CW, 15m CW; TZ6BB Mali – a number of slots; XE3ARV Mexico, 30m CW; A92GE Bahrain, 15m CW; FO/UT6UD Austral Islands, 17m CW; V47JA St. Kitts and St. Nevis, 20m SSB; VP2ETE Anguilla, 15m SSB; PY0F/PP1CZ Fernando de Noronha, 20m CW, 15m SSB; 5A1AL Libya, 20m CW, 17m CW, 12m CW; Z21LS Zimbabwe, 12m SSB; V51YJ Namibia, 30m CW; HC8/G8OFQ Galapagos, 20m SSB, 17m SSB, 15m SSB; FK8CP New Caledonia, 30m CW; VR2UW Hong Kong, 40m

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)
CW; XZ1Z Myanmar, 20m CW.

Upcoming DX and DXpeditions KH9 Wake Island

One of the “biggies” and certainly one of the rarer entities, Wake Island is currently 14th on Clublog’s most wanted DXCC list and 19th on DX Publishing’s list.

A group of North American hams will activate Wake in the Pacific from October 7th to 18th, signing as K9W.

The DXpedition is a commemorative operation, preserving the memory of 98 civilian contractors who lost their lives there on October 1943, during World War II.

FO/A Austral

K3EL and VE7DS will be active from Austral Islands (IOTA OC-114) signing as TX5RV from October 30th to November 6th. QSL via LoTW and M0URX.

CE0Y Easter Island

Famous for its giant statues (887 of them!), this remote Pacific island will be activated by an international team between November 1st and 7th, with three stations running simultaneously.

They plan to be active on all bands from 160m through 6m, with no digital activity on 160m, 80m, or 6m.

There will be a Clublog upload, and OQRS. QSL via EB7DX.

All QSOs will be confirmed on LoTW, but the website doesn’t state when. More information at

www.easterisland2013.com

T33 Banaba

An international team of 19 hams will activate T33 Banaba Island (26th and 43rd on the most wanted lists) between November 5th and 18th. They plan to activate all bands, all modes (CW, SSB, RTTY), with the exception of 160m, where they will operate CW only.

A word of warning: this DXpedition coincides with the N8A American Samoa activation and other DXpeditions.

Be sure that you can hear who you are working and don’t get caught in the wrong pile-up!!

CE0Z Juan Fernandez Islands

November is a busy month for big DXpeditions. As reported in the last issue, a DXpedition will take place to Robinson Crusoe Island in the Juan Fernandez Archipelago (CE0Z), using the callsign

XR0ZR, from November 8th to November 20th.

The seven-member team hopes to run four stations simultaneously, operating all modes from 160m through 6m.

CE0Z is 34th in the Clublog most wanted table.

KH8 American Samoa

A small international group of five hams will activate American Samoa from November 12th to December 2nd. This activation will include activity in the CQWW CW contest, and their higher-band operation will focus on the EU.

From 12-22 November they will sign as W8A.

During the CQWW CW contest they will sign as N8A.

From 27th November to 2nd December they will sign as 5W8A.

S2 Bangladesh

Ant IZ8CCW will lead an international team (Mediterraneo DX Club MDXC) of operators to Bangladesh where they will operate from 19th to 29th November.

This activation has a nice touch to it in that they are hoping to establish co-operation with local hams in Bangladesh to help improve their knowledge and skills.

There will be up to 22 operators from nine countries, and they will be on air for ten days with an antenna farm covering all bands and they will operate all modes.

T30 Western Kiribati

JF1CCH and JA1FUF will activate this relatively rare one (75th on Clublog most wanted list) from November 8th to December 4th. Callsign yet to be decided.

JD Minami Torishima

JG8NQJ will once again be active signing JG8NQJ/JD1 from Minami Torishima (OC-073) in mid December. QSL JA8CJY direct and bureau.

YV0 Aves Island

The4M5DX Group is planning to activate Aves Island as YW0A some time between November 2013 and February 2014, with an exact schedule to be announced soon.

This island is 35th and 39th, respectively, on the Clublog and DX Publishing most wanted lists.

More information about the dates to follow, hopefully in the next issue.

FT5Z Amsterdam

K0IR will lead an international team of 14 experienced DXpedition operators to Amsterdam Island in early 2014, operating as FT5Z from January 24th to February 12th.

More details in the next issue.

A2 Botswana (cancelled)

ZS2DL and a group had planned activate the African DXCC Botswana in April 2014 using the callsign A22D.

Unfortunately, a deal with a Japanese radio manufacturer could not be reached and the adventure has been cancelled.

FR/T Tromelin

F5UTX is organising an expedition to Tromelin which is expected some time in 2014. More details to follow.

VK0 Heard Island (postponed)

A planned DXpedition to VK0 Heard Island has been postponed until January 2015 for cost reasons.

That’s all the news for now.

Thanks as usual to the various bulletins and websites for information: OPDX, DX Coffee, DX World, I2MQP DX News.

I hope you enjoy working the nice DXpeditions in October and November and look forward to hearing you in the pile-ups!

Slán go foil,
Anthony EI2KC.

The 5MHz Newsletter

The latest - Summer 2013 - edition of The 5MHz Newsletter is now available to freely download in pdf format. This is Edition No.7.

This edition includes the latest news about 5 MHz Amateur Allocations, the latest update of the Worldwide Amateur 5 MHz Allocations Chart, stories on 5 MHz usage in South Africa, plus items on UK and German changes.

Beacon Spot features the last in the UK chain, GB3ORK, in Orkney and G3ENI investigates the ground beneath him.

It can be found at Dropbox on <http://tinyurl.com/q87jbuj>

News from the Kingdom of Bahrain

Dave EI3IO

With just 3 months to go as A92IO (the plane ticket to EI is already booked for 13 December) I thought I'd drop a line to Echo Ireland and provide a status report. With almost 60,000 QSOs in the log and an average QSO rate of around 2 per minute; this relates to about 500 hours or 3 man weeks of operating 24/7. Not too impressive given the statistics that some of the DXpeditions produce but I do work from 8am to 4pm, Sunday to Thursday and I have operated on 12 bands, 160m to 4m including 60m. Indeed I have focussed on 160m, 6m and 4m for a good percentage of time.

So what has the 60,000 QSOs produced? Well primarily heaps of pile ups, which surprisingly does not generally produce award fodder. In fact being a sought after station does have its disadvantages apart from feeling guilty when a rare station pops up on the DX Cluster and one is tempted to join another pile up.

In addition to being kept busy by the customers, not having a 'big' station in A9 (I use a Cushcraft R7 vertical and 700 Watts on 14 to 28 MHz) means that I am like everyone else in a pile-up and operating skills count most.

However I suppose that the greatest achievement has been to add after 4 years of opera-

tion another 10 band DXCC shield (No. 7627 dated February 2013) to the one gained as EI3IO (No. 6407 dated August 2008). This includes 112 countries worked on 160m and 125 countries worked on 6m where the best DX worked was ZL1RS at 14,573 km.

Just to complete the picture 17 countries have been worked on 4m (70 MHz). Best DX so far has been G3TCT at 5232 km, which at the time of writing is also a World Es 70 MHz distance record.

And on 60m (5 MHz) 30 countries have been worked, including EI.

All QSOs (bar 2 or 3) have been made by terrestrial communications using CW and SSB in roughly equal proportions.

EME has been tried on 6m but local noise levels appear too high.

So that's a brief overview of the story so far. I'm looking forward to working a few new ones from EI later in the year.

More A92IO details and an on-line log can be accessed from <http://EI3IO.com>.

All bureau QSLs should be directed to EI3IO as well as direct QSL requests after 1 September 2013.

73 for now, Dave EI3IO

The EI6IJ Fund

in support of Affiliated Clubs

Each year, in order to promote Amateur Radio to the public, the Committee will consider the awarding of a number of grants to Affiliated Clubs.

These grants will primarily be funded by a kind donation by the late John O'Riordan EI6IJ. The grants will be of around €300, usually not exceeding a total of €1,000 in any one year, and are to assist with the mounting of public special event stations by clubs affiliated to IRTS.

The stations should have **significant** public exposure with the specific intention of demonstrating Amateur Radio to members of the public. The funds may be allocated in one or more grants, or not at all, depending on the nature of applications received.

Applications to be made **in writing** to the **Secretary** of the Society for consideration by the Committee.

The following notes should act as a guide for interested Clubs.

1. Applicant Clubs must be affiliated to the Society and must demonstrate that they still fulfil the criteria for affiliation.
2. Applicants should fully describe the proposed event and show how they intend to promote Amateur Radio to the public.
3. A draft budget for the event should be submitted showing proposed expenditure and details of full or part matching Club funds in addition to the IRTS grant.
4. Grants will be released in two tranches, 50% up front and 50% on receipt of a report to the Committee after the event.
5. Applicant Clubs are fully responsible for the events and the award of an IRTS grant does not confer any vetting approval by the Society or acceptance of any responsibility.
6. Events should promote Amateur Radio and IRTS. Events taking place in GI are eligible, but should jointly promote IRTS and RSGB as national societies
7. The above proposal would have a life span as long as funds remain (5 years at present). However, from time to time smaller donations of equipment are given to the Society and the proceeds of the sale of same could be added to the fund. At present the fund is 'ring fenced' within the Society accounts.

SD by EI5DI is now Free

SD, EI5DI's HF contest logger is now free, and may be downloaded from ei5di.com.

SD supports more than 200 IRTS, RSGB and international HF contests including IOTA.



Galway Radio Experimenters Club

EI12VOR - QSL Competition

In the preparation for our VOLVO2012 special event station an opportunity presented its self while we were looking for a suitable operating site. We had an offer of a tent in the County Scout village, right in the middle of the action.

With open arms we accepted the offer and began planning our week, this would be an ideal location for showcasing our hobby to both scouting and general interest groups. Our focus quickly changed from pile ups and run rate, the new objective was to get every scout that visited the tent on the air.

We decorated our tent with home-made posters showing the history and interesting facts of our hobby. Our goal was to have our visitors operate and we did. A sincere thanks to all the patient hams international and local that was more than helpful. We worked some great characters' that really made nervous scouts feel at home, quite a few laughs as well.

To our surprise the big fascination in the

tent was our CW classes. With a bench full of keys and oscillators to play with, we set our students the task of creating their own message and sending it to a poor unfortunate ham to decode. To both their and our amazement the decoding worked quite well, personally I think it was the quality of the senders!

To extend the experience of our week long exhibition we ran a competition open to all the visiting scouts. The object was for the scouts to design a QSL card for the Volvo2012 station.

We were very pleased with the quality received, with the winning entry even putting detail on the back of the card also.

Galway County scouting kindly had the Galway Radio Experimenters Club along this October to its monthly meeting for a presentation in the Ballybane Resource Centre, Galway where club Chairman Larry (EI9CN) presented 1st prize to Caoimhe Fitzgibbon of 8th Galway Scout Troup (top picture) and 2nd prize to Rebecca Broderick of the 30th Galway Scout Troup. (bottom picture).



JOTA 2013

To follow up the success of last year's event EI4GRC are operating over the JOTA weekend from the 13th Scout Troup Den in Renmore, Galway where they hope to have more young minds involved.



Padraic Baynes EI9JA and Steve Wright EI5DD operating Lighthouses on the Air at Blacksod Lighthouse

Galway Radio Experimenters Club on Inis Oírr - EJ4INIS



Lighthouse on the Air

What a summer for going portable we had. It really made the choice of heading to Inis Oírr for the lighthouse on the air weekend an easy one. However planning the event was set in motion much earlier this year when an application to Irish Lights for access to the site was met with a favourable response. The call sign EJ4INIS was applied for, now all we could do was wait and hope for good weather.

Our plan was to run two stations keeping a mixture of SSB, digital and CW available over the weekend. This created a lot of equipment to haul to an island so it was agreed to load up a van and ship it out ahead of the weekend. This made it possible to avail of the air service for a quick 10 minute trip, indeed this was a great choice as it was a clear day and the view of islands and Cliffs of Moher was spectacular from the plane.

Larry EI9CN, Damien EI4HG and Enda EI2II were the first to get to Inis Oírr on Friday 16th of August. After a quick check in we headed the two mile trip to the other side of the island to where our new station would be.

Lighthouse number IE0012 was its name, standing 34 meters, it is one of the tallest in the country. Built in the 1850's it went through a number of changes until it was finally automated in 1978 and placed in the care of a local attendant.

We set about picking a spot for the station and getting the antenna setup. Using the lighthouse as a support, the windom was rolled out. A second 34 meter lighthouse would have been handy but we had to make do with some poles for the other side, still it was going to be interesting how it would behave as a sloper.

Next we made up the G3TXQ Hex Beam, every time we bring this antenna out it gets quicker to assemble. Using a small rotator and a tripod it operated brilliantly at only 18ft. Amazed at how quick the day goes we realised if we didn't head for food there would be none, still at least all the outdoor work was done with the morning promised wet.

Saturday morning came and so did Brian EI8IU and Axel EI8JX, the shack was in good order by now and some fine signals coming in on both 17 & 20 meters especially to the pacific region and Far East.



Alex EI8JX running a CW pile-up

Unfortunately conditions any higher didn't prove great and efforts on 40 meters were hampered by high noise levels, later to be identified as local. Most lightly suspect was a nearby ESB transformer probably suffering with poor earthing in all the dry weather. Good electrical bonding to rock is never easy!

Never the less plenty of fun was had, tea drank and pileup's managed. Fair play to Alex for some of his many runs on the key.

All too quick the weekend was over and the packing up began. Seldom does it all fit back into the van the same size as when packing to go on these trips, even though we did manage to avoid the duty free.

One couldn't finish without commenting on the lovely island. With its Father Ted ship wreck, walking trails, history and welcoming locals it's an enjoyable place to spend a weekend.

Our thanks to the helpful staff of Irish Lights and especially the local lighthouse keeper Micheál Ó Catháin.

This was the first trip the Galway Radio Experimenters Club have made to Inis Oírr and I expect won't be the last.

Lighthouse Details: <http://commissionersofirishlights.com/cil/aids-to-navigation/lighthouses/inisheer.aspx>



Inishbofin '13

I've looked at clouds from both sides now
From up and down and still somehow

It's cloud's illusions I recall

I really don't know clouds at all .

"If we could only have a cloud over there" he said, pointing more or less south east.

"Lord, for the past few years we have had nothing but clouds, and now on one of the best years we have had for years, you want **clouds**."

"Yeah! just one or two of those fluffy ones that's kind of dark on the bottom."

The heat of the day was mentioned as perhaps a malady that he may be suffering from. Perhaps he had been too long in the pub the night before. To be honest he looked fine. No different to any occasion in the last thirty odd years that he had made the annual trip to Inishbofin.

All of a sudden as if the Good Lord himself had heard his plaintiff cry, there appeared fluffy clouds with dark backsides, and in the southeast too.

"Time to set up", he said. And is if by magic there appeared a satellite dish mounted on a tripod connected up to a ten gigahertz transmitter pointed at the said clouds in the southeast.

"CQ cloud scatter, CQ cloud scatter", was the call made.

Nothing heard. More calls were made and still no reply.

"He'll be the cause of the good weather breaking" one of the local islanders commented. We nodded in agreement.

No one present had seen communication via clouds before.

Some day when some man of letters has time on his hands he should travel out as far as Finney, on the Mayo/Galway border and write a poem about the place and the people.

On days like those of the 20th of July last, inspiration would certainly abound. The annual Joyce Country Challenge was organised for that day and **GREC** were providing **AREN** support for the event. Each of the four different walks provided its own particular challenge to both the radio operators and the participants, the greatest of all being the heat.

The main challenge over a very mountainous region was a cause of great concern. Most of the participants, being seasoned walkers, were greatly challenged by the conditions and many in their wisdom dropped out at the halfway stage. No casualties (apart perhaps from a few with dented pride) ensued. Thanks in no small measure to advice given by the radio operators.

"I think I could erect these antennas in my sleep, I've done it so often out here". "Fine, the rest of us will be in the pub when you wake up" was the reply. It doesn't pay to make misstought remarks. But indeed, truth to tell, we all knew where the tie off points were, what way to raise the mast and where to



feed the coax and hit the anchor points into the ground.

The heat of the day gave way to several refreshment breaks.

Indeed the heat all week was punctuated by necessary trips to the "watering" holes on the island.

Calls were made on **EJ4GRC** and as if the world had been waiting, mountainous pileups were the order of the day.

"I'll wait for another cloud."

"By the looks of things you could be waiting a while."

"I know, but time is on my side."

Eventually, one or two of those fluffy ones that's kind of dark on the bottom came along and sure enough CQ cloud scatter was answered.

Copious amounts of humble pie were ingested, not without a certain amount pride in that it was achieved.

And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew,
That one small head could carry all he knew.

Ciaran EI8IH



A Story of Noise

By Seán Nolan EI7CD

Amateurs living in urban areas will be aware that a certain level of electrical interference is a fact of life. Those of you who listen to the 40 metre news will be aware that I have been plagued with a twenty four hour a day electrical white noise of S7 for the past twelve months or so.

A few weeks ago my next door neighbours went away for the weekend to a wedding. I noticed sometime on Friday afternoon that the noise had stopped and I had an ordinary band noise of S3 which you would expect in my area. I did not tie this in with the absence of my neighbours as they had often been away previously, sometimes for longer periods, and the noise would persist day and night.

I had come to the fairly obvious conclusion that the noise was being generated and radiated by some piece of electrical equipment that was permanently plugged in. Anyway, my neighbours returned on Sunday afternoon and so did the noise.

It struck me that perhaps their daughter might normally leave her mobile phone charger plugged in all the time and that she took it with her for the weekend.

Luckily I am on very good terms with my neighbours, so early the following week I asked if by any chance they had unplugged anything on going away that would normally be permanently plugged in. Straight away they said the televisions. Some hope dawned. The TVs were in two rooms and were fed from socket strips that fed other equipment also. The plugs of the socket strips had just been unplugged turning everything fed by them off when they went away.

By a process of elimination I established that the noise was associated with a decoder box for cable TV. This particular box was fed 12 volts from a small plug head switch mode power supply which I immediately suspected. I wound about 12 turns of the 12 volt power lead onto a ferrite ring and this reduced the noise from S7 to S5. There was about 6 inches of cable free between the ferrite ring and the 12 volt supply plug. I then replaced this with a transformer type wall wart which had 12 turns of the 12 volt cable wound tight up to the 12 volt supply plug and which I knew to be clean as it was powering a broadband modem in my shack.

This cured the noise and I was back down to an ordinary S3 band noise. I took their power supply to use on my modem. I brought it into my shack, plugged it into the modem and to a socket and lo and behold – no noise from it.

The only possibility left was that the box itself was generating the noise and that the power supply lead was acting as an antenna and radiating the interference. This view was reinforced by the fact that the ferrite ring on the original power supply had reduced the noise by 2 S points but the 6 inches of spare wire was, apparently, still able to radiate the interference.

To test this theory I wound 12 turns of the 12 power cable from my neighbours original power supply on a similar ferrite ring to the one on my own power supply making sure there was no spare wire between the 12 volt power plug and the ferrite. In addition I put two snap on cable ferrites on the cable immediately above the ferrite ring.

I brought this power supply back to my neighbour's house and fed 12 volts from it to the decoder box. Happily the noise remained suppressed and the rushing S7 white noise was gone and I was left with a normal S3 band noise.

The cable TV decoder box involved is a PACE Model Number DCR 7111/5. It is black and about the dimensions of a medium size laptop. I'm just reporting this little story in case anyone else is 'living' beside such a box.

Seán EI7CD

Phil ON4TA

Hello everyone,

I spent 3 wonderful weeks in Ireland, a "radio holiday" setting up a /P station on some rare VHF locators on the West Coast, combined with some SOTA (Summits-on-the-Air) activity on better days.

Packed with various antennas, telescopic masts, lots of coax cable, batteries, etc., I set out from Belgium driving through England and Wales, taking the ferry from Pembroke to Rosslare.

I started out on Arranmore Co. Donegal. Locator IO55RA is on the NW side of the island with a view of the Atlantic and the mainland, Errigal being visible. A direct path would be obscured by the mainland mountains, thankfully some Es made it worthwhile (82 6m QSO and 32 4m QSO). The local hill called Cluidaniller is also a SOTA: EI/IN-092. I had time to try 40-20-17-15-12m and 6m.

I managed a few 'first activations' on 8 SOTA hilltops in the West of Ireland. Thanks to a week's sunshine I could actually reach these otherwise boggy hilltops in north Co. Mayo. Unfortunately not many takers for VHF, maybe too remote and the path to the Galway Bay area being obscured. Conditions on 40m were generally poor so 20m saved the day (using 25W and an inverted V dipole).

In Connemara beautiful views from the top of Diamond Hill and its neighbour Benbrack. I also managed Cashel Hill this time around, I had to abandon the ascent last year due to low cloud.

Hillwalking is something I really enjoy, it brought me to Ireland last few years and now I always take a radio with me. All things being well I shall return to Connemara/Galway/Mayo in 2014 and will let you know in advance so that we can work out a schedule on 4m and 6m with the owners of ex-military equipment.

I was very pleased to meet up with EI7GMB Arthur and EI5DD Steve during an en-route stop in Galway on my return journey. Will stay in touch.

Best 73, Phil ON4TA

ComReg/IRTS Meeting

Some time back representatives of the Society met with representatives of ComReg. The following is an outline of the matters discussed at the meeting:

Extension of the 70MHz Band to 70.0-70.50MHz

The IRTS first gave a brief history of the 70 MHz band up to the inclusion of footnote EU8 in the European Common Allocations stating that "In a growing number of CEPT countries, parts of the band 70.0 – 70.5 MHz is also allocated to the Amateur service on a secondary basis."

This footnote was inserted following an initiative by ComReg at the request of IRTS and has encouraged further CEPT countries to make allocations to the amateur service. It was further noted that the use of the 70 MHz band by PMR users was diminishing.

ComReg noted that there are still users in this band and that the Business Radio Review which has just commenced, may clarify spectrum availability. ComReg also indicated they would look at the VHF 70MHz assignments to ascertain the realistic usage of the band.

In the meantime, the IRTS were encouraged to submit comments to the next Spectrum Strategy Consultation so that this issue might be addressed in the Action Plan for 2014-2015.

Upgrade of the Segment 50.0 – 51.0 MHz to amateur primary

The IRTS are seeking to match the frequency allocations between Ireland and the UK in the 50 MHz band where the UK has granted primary status nationally to this segment.

ComReg noted that this band is also allocated to Radiolocation and would therefore be reluctant to depart from the present "secondary" status given that the status throughout Europe is secondary.

IRTS were encouraged to submit comments to the next Spectrum Strategy.

In the meantime the IRTS would examine the UK situation further.

CEPT Licence format

At the foot of the present CEPT licence there is a statement that "Other Countries which have implemented CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01:" followed by a series of boxes which contain the identification letters of the countries that have implemented the Recommendation at the time the CEPT licence is issued. The difficulty with this is that as there is no expi-

ration date on the CEPT licence. It becomes outdated when other countries implement the Recommendation.

The IRTS suggested that either the UK option of a link to the ERO website or a link to ComReg's website where the list of implementing countries could be kept up to date could be included in the licence document.

ComReg agreed to review and consider which option would be the most practical to implement.

Remote Operation of Amateur Stations

The IRTS suggested that:

Remotely operated stations use the suffix /R after their call-sign.

This would not be a modification to the existing licence call-sign, but a suffix to identify the type of station (similar to the existing suffix /QRP to indicate a low power station or /M or /P to indicate mobile or portable). This would confirm that the location of the station is not necessarily that of the operators home location, and

Only the licence holder be permitted to remotely operate a station licensed in Ireland.

This would ensure that responsibility for the operation of the remote station within the regulations is solely the responsibility of the licence holder.

ComReg noted the points raised by the IRTS and is in general in agreement. While noting there is only one station authorised, the matter will be reviewed and considered.

Support for an allocation to the amateur service in the region of 5 MHz at WRC-15 / New UK 5 MHz allocations

The Agenda for WRC-15 at item 1.4 provides for consideration of an allocation to the Amateur service on a secondary basis within the band 5.250-5.450 MHz and the IRTS are seeking ComReg's support in this matter.

The IRTS also sought to have the current allocations in the 5MHz band extended to match those in the UK for practicality.

ComReg noted that the existing users of this band have a priority and would most likely take any national lead in determining the position to be adopted at WRC-15.

However planning for the WRC will begin later in the year and an indication of thinking on the matter may become avail-

able then.

In relation to any change in the existing allocations these could be discussed when ComReg next meets with the current users.

Possible communications solutions for smart metering

The IRTS are concerned that any future plans for smart metering will lead to greater interference in the HF/VHF spectrum noting that the process is apparently moving up a gear.

The IRTS preference would be for the use of GSM systems.

ComReg advised that while they were aware of the general plans to rollout smart metering, nothing had been finalised or discussed at this stage but were hopeful of a European Common Allocation which would address all concerns.

Implementation of footnote EU17 in the next revision of the Radio Frequency Plan for Ireland

The IRTS sought clarity as to when the footnote EU17 would be included in the Radio frequency plan and also sought an allocation at 3400-3410 MHz which is a part of the band 3400-3475 MHz as allocated in the UK.

ComReg noted that due to a heavy work programme the Table of Allocations, which would include the requested footnote, has not been prepared and there may be some time before it is.

Further the expiry of the FWALA in 2017 indicates a consultation in 2015/16 as to the future use of the band and the matter of the 10 MHz allocation could be looked at then.

("EU17 In the sub-bands 3400-3410MHz, 5660-5670 MHz, 10.36-10.37 GHz, 10.45-10.46 GHz the amateur service operates on a secondary basis. In making assignments to other services, CEPT administrations are requested wherever possible to maintain these sub-bands in such a way as to facilitate the reception of amateur emissions with minimal flux densities.").

Arrangements for required notifications to ComReg commencing in June 2014 i.e. five years after the introduction of the Lifetime Licence

The IRTS expressed a preference that the forthcoming required notifications would be an online system with a provision for hard copy as required.

ComReg indicated that it intends to implement an on-line solution using the

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

existing usernames and passwords and hoped that the IRTS would facilitate the process for those without computer facilities.

The finer details are being worked on and ComReg will keep the IRTS informed and in due course ask the IRTS to assist in the notification process.

Information will be made available to licensees about usernames and passwords.

Kerry 70cm Repeater

The Kerry Amateur Radio Group is pleased to announce that its 70cms repeater is active once again after a period off the air.

The repeater has undergone refurbishment and now sports voice identification in place of the previous Morse code ident.

Other works include a new power supply, new case, new cooling fan and a new antenna system.

The repeater, callsign EI7KYR, located in mid-Kerry can be accessed with a CTCSS tone of 103.5Hz, its output is 430.975MHz with a +7.6MHz shift.

The Kerry Amateur Radio Group welcome any reception reports and look forward to working many amateur stations on the repeater.

Reception reports can be given to any Kerry Amateur Radio Group member or via email to EI1KARG at [gmail.com](mailto:EI1KARG@gmail.com)

Irish Amateur Television Club

The IATC welcome visitors to their website, www.iatc.ie

Should any amateur radio operator have an ATV project they would like to be featured on the IATC website, details of how this can be achieved are available by visiting the above site.

The Dublin ATV repeater is running a test card on 2390.00MHz. This frequency is just below the 2.4GHz video senders section.

All reports are welcome and should be sent to Tom, EI7HT at South Dublin Radio Club.

VHF Manager Tony EI4DIB

I would like to introduce myself, my name is Tony Allen and I have been a licensed ham radio operator since June 1989.

My main interest is in VHF and my biggest aim is to encourage the use of the 4m band here in Ireland.

I also run a blog all about 4m here in Ireland, it gives some comprehensive info and reviews on different 4m radios and plenty of home brew antennas, the blog can be found at: www.ei4dib.blogspot.ie



I can be found most nights on 145.400, 433.400 and 70.400 MHz FM. Also now I can be heard on the only 4m Gateway in "EI", EI4FMG on 70.350 MHz FM.

Feel free to contact me at the following email address: ei4dib@gmail.com

I was at an IRTS meeting recently and was asked if I would like to become the VHF manager, not fully knowing anything about the job I said yes..... so basically all I have to do is ask you all to send in any bits and pieces to be at my email address above, I will compile it into an interesting article and have it printed here, simple..... so go ahead and email me all those juicy VHF and UHF contacts.

As you will find out I am very interested in keeping 4m alive here in Ireland, and had a hand in setting up the 4m gateway EI4FMG which is on 70.350 FM just outside Drogheda.

Also to encourage activity on the band I held a draw for a Cleartone CM-7200 4m AM/FM radio, the radio was advertised on my blog and on the IRTS news also on a Dutch forum and on the UK 4m website.

The draw attracted a lot of people with 40 entering the draw, here are there call signs: EI7IW, EI2HEB, EI3HGB, PA3BAS, PA1FOX, EI4IP, PD1BT, PC5E, PE1PQX, PE5ED, MI6CQS, EI2HJB, PA2EFR, PA0HJA, PE2AAB, ON4PC, PE5HV, PA0FMY, ON7WP, PE1IOC, G8JGO, EI4IN, M0XTA, G7AGI, EI3FW, EI2HX, EI2HYB, EI3HBB, EI6EQB, ON2TD, EI3HCB, EI6FR, EI9KF, PA7EY, EI4GGB, MI0RRE, EI5GN, PA3MET, EI4FNB, GW4JQP.

The idea was that each entry emailed me with a reason as to why they should win the radio, I had a good giggle at some of the reasons, all who emailed me were entered regardless to the reason as why they should win... The draw ran for the month of June.

Then on Sunday 30th June, after the Integral 10k fun run in Clogherhead my grandson Kyle done the honour of pulling the winner's call sign out of the box.

The winner was Tony Fay EI6EQB, well done Tony.

I am also active with AREN and I am the North East MEM Region AREN Representative. In the North East we have a nice team which includes the following members: Anthony EI2KC, Pat EI2HX, Sean, EI4IP, Jim EI2HJB, Seamus EI3KE, Derek EI7CHB, Ben EI4IN and Thos EI2JD.

We have been doing various training exercises in different locations which includes searching for missing person on Bettystown beach with a retired Area Officer from the Coast Guard, GPS and Map reading in Ardgillan, Skerries, First Aid training with the Irish Red Cross and many more activities.



Kyle draws the winner

So that is enough about me, I will look forward to all your input to this article by sending me your VHF/UHF contacts, squares etc.

Please ensure any of you who use 4m please send me in those contacts as well...

ei4dib@gmail.com



Tony EI9EQB

Papa Lima Group Heads West IOTA Contest 2013

Following their victory in the 2012 IOTA Contest, the Papa Lima Group members were determined to successfully defend their title in 2013.

Winners of the IRTS IOTA trophy for the leading EJ station in 2012 operating from the Little Saltee Island and with a very high placing in the overall results, this year the group headed for the west coast and Innismore, the largest of the Aran Islands.

Like the Saltees, the Aran Islands have a unique island reference (EU006) and therefore should be in demand by the international amateur community. On the other hand, Aran and Innismore in particular, have been activated on a regular basis in recent years. In fact, the WestNet Group had a very successful activation in May of this year. So, the question was "how would the cookie crumble?"

A four man Advance Party made a day trip to the island in April where they were greeted by driving rain, bitter cold and an inhospitable landscape.

The first time visitors among the party were not enthusiastic, but were won over by the reassurances of the more experienced members and the quality of the all day breakfast in a Kilronan hostelry!!

The proposed site at the Fairy Cottage was surveyed, and accepted, but with some reservations. "How do you keep antennas in the air when they stand on rock, and little else?" "Is it possible to share the site with a horse?" and "Is there enough power to drive our amplifiers".



EI7KD, SP9NWN, EI5IQ, EI3KG, EI4GK, SP7IDX, SQ7NNM, EI9FBB, EI9KC

These and other questions were asked and, over time, were answered satisfactorily.

Although the primary reason the for the Aran operation was to defend the IRTS IOTA trophy, there were a number of guest operators travelling from Poland, and in fairness to them, it was decided that a more extended operation was called for. This eventually became a full week..

The question then asked was "If we spend four or five days working the bands, how many of those stations we work will be happy to work us again in the contest?"

The answer was fairly obvious, "to hell with it let's enjoy ourselves"

Transport arrangements between the mainland and the Aran Islands are very efficient. High speed boats from the Galway and Clare coasts carry almost 2,000 visitors a day to the islands during the tourist season. An air service gets you there in minutes.

That's all very well, but a major DXpedition requires a lot of equipment for which there is no provision on the passenger boats, and definitely not on the aeroplane!

A cargo boat from Galway docks travels to the islands twice a week. It leaves in

the small hours of the morning and cargo must be delivered the evening before sorry no passengers allowed!

To overcome the equipment transportation difficulties, one of the team members made his 7-seater car available, stripped of its seats and other movable items. It was filled chockfull with all of the team's equipment and shipped on the cargo boat to the island. This had the added benefit of making a car available for team transport when needed on the island.

However, as diesel is the only fuel available on Aran, care had to be taken not to run out of petrol.

With a three element Yagi, two Hex beams, a Vertical for 40m and several dipoles the team was ready for action.

Four days of operation before the contest resulted in more than 12,000 QSOs (over 8,000 uniques) with good openings to the US West Coast and Japan.

6 meters was also a worthwhile source of contacts.

Countries with most entries in the log were

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. Germany | 2. USA |
| 3. Japan | 4. Poland |

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By the morning of Contest Saturday all radios, antennas and computers were working well but the question was “will those who have already worked us, be willing to work us again in the contest”?.

During the contest, the group’s new contest callsign, EJ1Y, was aired for the first time. However, conditions deteriorated on Saturday morning and for a time it looked as if our worst fears were confirmed as band activity was minimal. As the day progressed a welcome lift occurred and the QSO rate increased to normal or above levels.

The remainder of the Contest was completed in good conditions..

The final contest log showed 2,173 QSOs (1,225 CW and 948 SSB). There were 479 multipliers giving an overall score of 8,000,000+ points.

This result eclipsed the team’s score in the 2012 IOTA Contest from Little Saltee and indicated that they are on track to retain the IOTA Trophy for another year. It also confounded the pessimists who



claimed that having worked EU006 early in the week of the Contest, many stations would not work it again in the Contest.

The team consisted of:

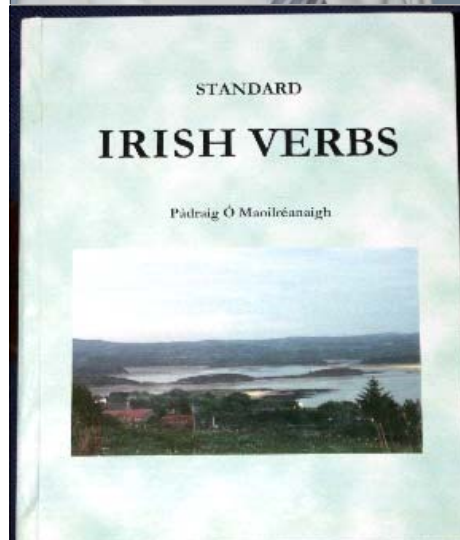
Michal EI3KG, Team Leader;
Adam EI5JQ, Antenna Builder Extraordinaire;
Ark EI9KC, SSB and CW;
Chris SP7NNM who brought Anita, his girl friend, with him from Poland;
Waldi SP7IDX, builder of Hex beams;
Mietek SP9NWN, “Five Nine”;
Damian, SWL Photographer:
Dave EI9FBB, Republic of Cork;
Oleg EI7KD, CW Maestro;
and Seán EI4GK, Liaison Officer.
The official language of the DXpedition was Polish but some English was heard during the week!
Everybody was captivated by the fantastic weather and the beauty of the island. Some, at least, will return.
Oh, and the car got back to the mainland with all its equipment in good condition.

In recent weeks some discussion has taken place about “next year”. Following a quick trip to West Kerry a decision was taken to make 2014 “Great Blasket Year”

Seán Donelan EI4GK



Pádraig Mulready EI5IE/WX7M



Pádraig Mulready EI5IE/WX7M recently launched his new book "The Standard Irish Verbs".

This is a computer generated analysis of all the Irish language verbs in normal usage.

The book runs to more than 1800 A4 pages.

Pádraig was born in Donegal but emigrated to the US at the age of fifteen. He spent most of his life working in the computer industry but is now semi-retired.

A long time member of IRTS, Pádraig has a big station in Nevada and his call-sign features in many Irish logs

IPA Radio Club Contest

The International Police Association Radio Club (IPARC) invites all radio amateurs of the world to take part in the IPARC-Contest which takes place every year on the first weekend in November.

Further details are available on www.iparc.de



Youngsters On the Air Estonia 2013

By Ger McNamara EI4GXB, Team Leader

The third Youngsters On the Air took place in Tartu, Estonia from 5/12th August 2013.

About 85 participants from the following countries attended: Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia and Sweden.



The youngsters followed a program which included several activities such as contesting, ARDF, electronic kit building, robotics, satellites and Estcube demonstration, visiting an observatory, intercultural evening representing their home countries and antenna building.

The youngsters had a great week, new friends were made and arising out of that, the youngsters and team leaders are planning new meetings and other youth activities in the future.

As team leader, it was my pleasure to accompany the Irish team consisting of Caoimhe McNamara EI1650 (my daughter) Lisa Cummins EI9GSB Co-team leader, Jordan Cummins SWL (son of EI9GSB) and Kelsey Aspell SWL (daughter of EI3HGB)

Rather than waxing lyrical myself, on how the EI team participated, here are the team members own thoughts on the week:

Since we returned from YOTA 2013, Jordan has applied to take his exam in October and Lisa has been asked by YOTA to contribute to the official YOTA website <http://www.ham-yota.eu/> and has done a fantastic job. YOTA 2014 will be held in Finland.

Finally, many thanks to the IRTS committee for financing our trip and to Lisa EI9GSB for her invaluable assistance while on the trip.

Ger McNamara EI4GXB

YOTA 2013 - Estonia by Lisa Cummins, EI9GSB



I was surprised when I was asked if I would be interested in attending YOTA 2013 as part of Team Ireland in a chaperone capacity (based on female numbers in the team) and I have to say I jumped at the chance. I

love trying to encourage youngsters to come into the hobby, as well as getting them active on the air so I couldn't wait for this opportunity. We arrived in Tartu on the 3rd August and spent the day getting settled in, it was slightly awkward at first when you realised that a lot of the participants had been here last year and already knew each other. That along with the language barriers made it initially hard to develop a conversation past an occasional nod or small smile.

The food didn't live up to my expectations but at this stage I had come to expect that having been in Tallinn, Estonia for 2 days prior. Other than the brief hello in the corridors nothing much was happening until the welcome party later that evening which mainly involved everyone mixing and dancing, with one of the organisers playing music over a sound system.

The first official activity day was much better with the organisation of activities that allowed the participants to interact as well as get to know each other. The schedule of activities meant everyone knew where they were meant to be although I was quite surprised that not everyone took part, but put this down to the early start time or even the late night the day before.

The ice breaker games, although seeming silly at the time, proved to be really fun and by the end of it I knew the name of every person in my group. Juri was the main organiser of the event this year and he did a great job. He comes across as a really well mannered and soft spoken man who is extremely nice.

Cultural night was held on 4th August and was a great success. So many different decorations and types of food etc to be tried and tasted, and everyone were so proud to tell us of their cultures, some of which were extremely fascinating. Although we didn't manage to get through all of the teams that day, it continued throughout the week, albeit a big party was still had by the youngsters, with the music and dancing still in full swing until the early hours.

YOTA activities always began with some games for the kids to get to know each other in some small way i.e. name or country. Different topics were up for discussion e.g. how we can get into the world of communications, how we got into the hobby as well as what study materials, if any, we available for the different countries and what could be done to make these more accessible or to assist the youngsters in any way.

This showed me that all countries have their own procedures (as to be expected) but that the materials they are supplied with are not always modern or current and this reflects in the exams questions e.g. a member of the Finnish team explained that

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Kelsey, Caoimhe, Jordan, Ger EI4GXB and Lisa EI9GSB

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they were required to know about some procedures and components etc that were no longer available, and this seemed to be a futile exercise in my opinion. There were also kit making class, the kids loved this one. Ger EI4GXB helped the EI youngsters out with assembling the kit, explaining diodes, transistors, capacitors etc and showing them how to solder same. They spent hours at this, even when the class had finished, so much so they were soldering until 10pm and still hadn't finished at that stage.

There was also a presentation by a Latvian team member on Free Energy. To be honest, it didn't appeal to me very much as it appeared to be more about his belief in chakra and crystals, medicine circles and positive energy but I'm sure some people found it interesting.

After that was the cool part - robots!!

The robots are cool little buggy type cars with sensors etc and we got to program them, which everyone loved, they were going back and forth, turning 360 degrees etc. We then got an amount of time to try and program them to follow a set path, which I have to say was extremely funny and frustrating at the same time. We had use of them until close of the event and you could find the geeks in the room building and changing same

We also had the opportunity to build antennas out of measuring tapes and plastic pipes, which were quite easy until it came to the soldering and adding the coax without sufficient tools. I decided to finish mine at home. I am now the proud owner of a 2m 3 element Yagi antenna which works quite well and took a total of €4 to make, an interesting project for any homebrew enthusiasts who work with new comers to the hobby, or indeed the youngsters also.

Our presentation on our country came and went, but although we had the projector there was no sound so I had to totally wing it otherwise there would be silence which wouldn't be good. We got through it and even threatened to steal Ger "the leprechauns" crock of gold.

There was another workshop on satellites in which we had to (in our teams) describe what would be needed to get a satellite in space, as well as a presentation on EstCube 1.

We didn't manage to contact it on this occasion but it was interesting to see and hear about. Other activities included a trip

to the Observatory, although I didn't participate in this but heard that it was touch and go as to seeing stars etc as it had been overcast and partially cloudy.

ARDF was another interesting workshop with Team Bulgaria demonstrating same. I loved this but don't think the competitive portion would be for me, maybe as an activity for fun.

There were also 2 contests held while we were there, one was a 2m contest between YOTA participants which resulted in contestants running wildly throughout the hotel trying to find a suitable spot to transmit. The winner of this was Ger with a confirmed 35 QSOs within the 90 minute contest.

The other one was an off-air contest with 2 benches representing 40m and 80m. Contestants raced from one bench to the other having "QSO's" with non-participating members causing QRM.

It was hilarious.

I didn't attend one of the scheduled activities as I wanted a chance to get on the air, so we went to the station which is situated in the park across the road.

One station between 80 hams is absolute chaos, and trying to get a slot was trying to dig for gold. Ger took the initiative and developed a timetable, which had to be drawn up to allow the hams get a chance to operate, however the timetable is set into teams so if you have 4-5 on your team, that still about only 10-15 minutes each (assuming everyone wishes to operate) which still isn't a lot of time considering.

However I still managed to get a number of QSO's in the log especially my own home station (which sounded really well and managed to hear first time in the zoo) but the time was not enough for me personally as I had to give another member the chance to operate and my 10 minutes flew by.

The Science Museum was another big hit, with all sorts of wacky experiments and demonstrations, the kids loved this. Again as we had our slot booked for this time, I found myself in the Tower operating ES9YOTA for approximately 2 hours, which suited me perfectly as I had not had much air time personally, and despite having Jordan operating with me, I loved it. The demand for the call was really big, to include speaking to multiple stations in Asia (Japan was a regular caller) and this was a highlight for me, also getting some EI's into the log. As well as this station, the Polish team had a 40m & 80m setup on their balcony and kindly allowed me the use of this station using my own call ES5/EI9GSB. This was brilliant as it gave me the change to operate for the first time outside of EI, I hadn't done this before and Estonia provided me with that opportunity.

I also had been invited to leader meetings where all the leaders gathered to discuss the planning of hobbies, games, to express any issues etc. I was a bit daunted about this as I wasn't the team leader, just a chaperone in effect, but it was interesting to hear the background to the event activities, as well as upcoming plans for the days ahead.

There were a few disagreeing views about certain things but in the end all was decided and delegated to the relevant participants.

But being a chaperone aka assistant to team leader, can have some drawbacks in that you were responsible for the kids on your team and this can be quite stressful in certain situations

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i.e. trips out etc. But the YOTA kids were a great bunch, and they behaved themselves quite well for a group of 14 – 25 year olds!

But as a parent however, I can't believe the change in Jordan personally. His interest has developed 10 fold, he loves making the electronic kits and has even purchased some new ones! He is currently studying for his exam and hopes to be ready for the October sitting, which I find amazing as he never really showed a major interest in the hobby other than operating on some of our group activations.

But highlight of my week was definitely meeting new friends, I was sad to see the teams leave one by one but delighted that modern technology, especially Facebook, will keep us all in touch.

I have had the pleasure to meet some really decent, intelligent, nice people who are a credit to the ham community, real lovers of the hobby who are a pleasure to know personally, including the founder, Florin and the IARU president, Hans.

I couldn't go through every member of the activity but both the youngsters and team leaders are a credit to their countries, especially Team Ireland leader, Ger, along with our youngsters, Caoimhe, Jordan & Kelsey.

In the week since the activity has finished, I miss it terribly. I have had QSO's with 2 lovely ladies I have met there on the air, and look forward to many more. I have come away from the program with a new inspiration to get more kids involved (as well as personally having the ambition to learn Morse which hopefully I will be able to achieve).

I would do it all again in the blink of an eye with no hesitation as I think it is a great program which has inspired the youngsters to progress with their personal interest in the hobby, there is no greater gift we can offer the kids, and I will try and use this in our local Group NCRG. YOTA should be successful for many more years to come.

Special thanks should be given to the IRTS for their support, they have given kids a rare opportunity.

Thanks to our local groups, NCRG and Limerick Radio Club for their support also, and especially to Ger EI4GXB for giving us his time and assistance.

Lisa Cummins, EI9GSB

My YOTA Experience by Jordan Cummins

My name is Jordan. I am 14 years old and I'm a member of the North Cork Radio Group. I have had an interest in amateur radio for quite a while and I have operated every now and again both at home and also during club activations.

When I was asked to go to YOTA 2013 my first thought was that it was going to be boring. I didn't have much experience other than on SSB so was quite anxious about what the program would entail. But when I arrived in Estonia I was excited for YOTA.

We stayed in Tallinn for 2 days before YOTA because of flight schedules and we got a tour around Tallinn by Kristjan ES1TRE, a YOTA organizer from Tallinn. We visited The Teletorn Tower, an old broadcasting tower which was extremely interesting, as well as doing a walking tour of the Old Town, which had beautiful buildings, churches, city views and a lot of history.

We then travelled to Tartu, Estonia to attend YOTA. At YOTA I learned a lot of new skills, including how to solder for the first time by building and soldering electronic kits. Some of this was quite tricky as it involved putting together different components which were really small and soldering these into place.

I really enjoyed this and had some great help from Ger, our leader.

I also learned how to build a 2m Yagi antenna out of just measuring tape, pieces of wood, a plastic bar and plastic clips. This involved following the measurements given to us, cutting each element to size, assembling these together and soldering the balun and coax into place. This antenna worked really well



considering it took about €4 to make in total. This is the first time I had attempted something like this also and thought it was quite simple considering some of the antennas available to buy.

We also had Robot Programming where you had to make your robot move by computer. I loved this and it was really interesting to see the robot following your instructions. We had to programme it to follow a street map given to us by the workshop teachers and this was brilliant as the number of mistakes in rotations etc made us laugh.

During YOTA, we also had the opportunity to operate the station ES9YOTA from the site. Each team was allocated time slots and I couldn't wait for Team Ireland's slots. I gained a lot of experience at working on the radio working pile ups and listening to others calling my station. The YOTA station ES9YOTA was located in an old fire station tower in a park across the road from the hotel. We used a Yaesu FT 920 with a three element Yagi and an Expert 1k linear amplifier. The station in the Tower was working on 20m only and there was another station on a balcony of a room working 40m and 80m.

But the most important part of the week for me was meeting new friends from all over Europe, learning about their culture as well as hearing stories of their experiences on the air and what skills they had. This has encouraged me to try and further my interest in the hobby and I have now decided to pursue getting my own license, hopefully I might be in a position to take the exam this coming October if possible.

The YOTA programme has helped me a lot, and I will personally miss the friendship, demonstrations, exhibitions and encouragement I received there from all other teams, organisers and especially my own team. I think this experience has enhanced my skills, knowledge and enthusiasm for the hobby. I can't recommend this enough.

Jordan Cummins

My YOTA Experience

By Caoimhe McNamara EI1650

With last year's YOTA still fresh in my mind, the expectation for all things radio related was at an all time high.

Coming straight off a dodgy Ryanair flight, I couldn't wait to meet new and old faces. The camp was held in a hotel, which in my opinion was far better than last year's accommodation!



With the hello's and greetings taking place in the morning, by the evening, a lovely welcome by the home team and organisers for the event, the Estonian team, and their leader Juri ES9JR, was presented, welcoming back countries from the previous years, and welcoming the new.

For me, the kit building and soldering was the best part. Having spent many years watching my father (Ger EI4GXB) and late grandfather (Pat EI9CB) solder and build all sorts of projects for their shacks, my interest in the hobby was immense.

As a third generation ham, or soon to be third generation ham, each activity captivated and enthralled me, leaving little or no time for boredom. I would have loved some more workshops like this; rather than robot building. As fun as robots are, I don't envision them calling CQ anytime soon!

The soviet esque ruins that lay in the centre of the park, the majestic lake to the right and the beautifully decorated surroundings made for an enjoyable and pleasant atmosphere for transmitting.

A red stone brick tower, complete with an eye watering see through steel stairway, was the home for many during the event. The station itself, with Sahara temperatures and a tiny seating area, was reminiscent of the shack, minus the clutter of my father's mess and insane amount of radio equipment! While I was too nervous to operate, my fellow team members all did. Maybe next time, eh?

The entire camp was beyond describable. While the social aspect was good craic, the real highlight was my passion and love for radio, which blossomed while at YOTA. Hopefully, I'll be able to take my license exam when I finish secondary school in two years time.

With YOTA, I believe whole-heartedly, that the youth of Ireland will flourish with excitement and admiration for the hobby.

Caoimhe McNamara, aged 16, Co. Clare.

My YOTA Experience

By Kelsey Aspell, Mallow. Co. Cork.

On the 3rd of August 2013, I set off for Dublin Airport with two other members of Team Ireland, Lisa and Jordan.

At the airport we met Ger and Caoimhe who were the other team members. Then we set off to Estonia for Youngsters On The Air 2013.



Before travelling to Y.O.T.A, I didn't have a big interest in amateur radio and didn't have high expectations for the following 9 days.

When Team Ireland arrived in Tallinn, we were collected by a member of Team Estonia, Kristjan, who showed us the sights of Tallinn and the Tallinn television tower as Team Ireland had arrived two days before Youngsters On The Air began. Kristjan was extremely friendly and helpful for the two days he was with us in Tallinn.

On the morning of the 5th of August, Team Ireland travelled via bus from Tallinn to Tartu. When we arrived at Tartu, we were then transported via car to the Raadimosa Hotel, where Y.O.T.A was being held. That evening there was a welcome party for everyone attending Y.O.T.A, here I got to make new friends from all over Europe and become close with my team members.

During the running of Youngsters On The Air, I took part in activities such as electronic kit building, antenna building, fox hunting, presentations, day trips to AHHA Science Museum and Tartu Observatory and took part in contests.

I enjoyed taking part in each activity as they all improved my knowledge of amateur radio. During the week of Y.O.T.A., I gained knowledge and experience of electronic kit building and soldering which I had never done before. I gained experience in antenna building and how antennas work. I gained valuable experience in managing and operating an amateur radio station which I found most enjoyable.

The Youngsters On The Air programme has given me a big interest in amateur radio as a hobby and has given me confidence in operating and also given me valuable experience.

The Y.O.T.A programme has inspired me to sit the exam for my ham radio licence in October of this year.

I have gone from a teenage girl having no interest in amateur radio to having a huge interest in the hobby, all thanks to my experience at Y.O.T.A 2013.

A big thanks for Ger McNamara, EI4GXB and the I.R.T.S for giving me this opportunity.

Kelsey Aspell,



Excerpts from the HX files

A Look at ATV with Pat Fitzpatrick EI2HX - Excerpt 027

Hello and welcome to the HX Files 027.

In this issue I would like to talk about a small work station that was made from a computer bench and some other bits of wood and metal that were lying around.

As mentioned in previous issues of Echo Ireland, I have no actual workshop and the projects are made and assembled in and around my house. In most cases there would be a lot of time lost gathering the parts and tools needed for the job and then putting them away so I can use the room again (normally my bedroom or kitchen).

With this bench, the job (the mess) can be left as it is on the bench and pushed into the spare room, out of the way until the next time and the project can be easily be restarted with the minimum of a delay.

As with every job you have to know when to stop adding things to the project



as the bench would become awkward to move around.

Having used it a few times I would bring most of the parts and tools needed for the job from their various locations and I would have them to hand on the bench

The project started with a bench bought out of Argus some time ago, but when I went from a tower type PC to a laptop the bench was in the way. In my home any flat surface can and will have piles of clothes or something on it and the stuff will always fall off it, but with its metal frame and wheels I was reluctant to throw it out, so it was dissembled and put into the shed as it might come in handy some-time.

Many moons later
When the bench was rediscovered in the back of the shed (over a year later), I decided to reassemble it and make a small work table/bench out of it,

The first thing done to the bench was to cut a piece of wood to cover the original top, this piece would not have to be perfect, as when it was screwed to the top of the bench it would act as a sacrificial worktop surface that could be marked and drilled into, and be replaced when it got to rough for use.

The sliding shelf under the bench top (seen in photo 1) was originally for the keyboard and as a result is close to the bench top, and its mounting brackets are part of the metal framework and could not be moved.

I decided to use it to hold a parts tray and some tools being used at the time for a project, but as the trays being used would not fit on the shelf, the only thing was to fit the trays into the shelf, (as there was plenty of room under it).

So with having a sick jig saw the only choice I had was to drill a series of large holes using a hole cutter to remove as much of the timber first, and then with a small saw and some files, squared off the edges so the trays fitted.

One of them has a lip on it so it would hold itself in place, the other one was held in with the addition of a couple of angle brackets screwed to the shelf and



box.

On the bottom of the trolley some wood was added to all the sides to increase the capacity of it and to stop anything falling off. There is also a large gap between the sliding tray and base shelf so another fixed shelf can be made to hold some more tools and parts for the project being worked on (but not at the moment). Also added was a rail on each side that some cables and leads could be draped over them and always be to hand.

With all the metalwork done, a back board was made (photo 2) and also fitted to the top of the backboard was another shelf; this shelf had some edging fitted to it to stop items falling off it.

Not wanting to use one of the large and heavy power supplies I had, a PSU was used that came from one of a few tower computers, and then it was attached to the back of the bench, along with a double mains socket.

I got the computers from a friend who recycles them, the computers were from a local college that were replacing their stock and I was given some of them, (5) after their hard drives and some other parts had been removed by him.

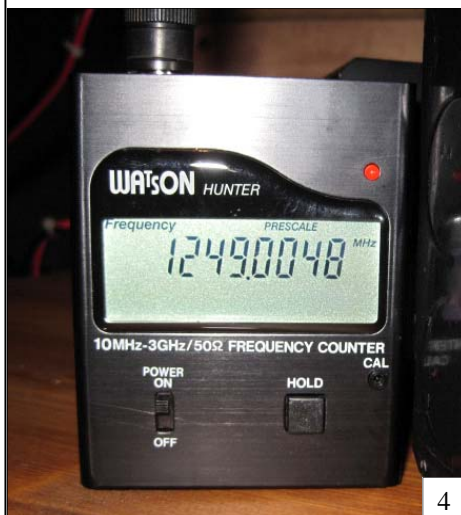
The power supply from the pc has out-

(Continued on page 25)

puts of 3, 5, and 12 volts and it will be used to power the project being worked on and even using some of the 12 volt LED lights to illuminate the work area from above and from the side, as well as having the use of a mains flexi lamp. The dismantled cases from the computers can be seen on the bottom of photo 3, that metal will be ready when I borrow the guillotine from a friend to cut the metal down to more manageable sizes once I first flatten the folds in the panels. Also seen in photo 3 with the metal are some cereal boxes that will be used to make some templates with.

In photo 3 you can see on the left and right sides of the back board I mounted some DC sockets on a couple of blanking plates, these sockets are attached to the various outputs of the power supply. In photo 4 and photo 2, you can see a project having its frequency being measured. The frequency measuring unit is the one I won in the famous Cork Rally raffle, (you would be a Langer not to buy a ticket for the raffle!).

That's it for this issue folks,
May all your signals be P5.
73 Pat.



Updates and enquiries to Thos EI2JD at thoscaffrey@hotmail.com

	DXCC Confirmed	79	EI9GSB (+4)	39	EI4GXB
246	EI7BA	76	EI9EW (+1)	39	EI7CC
220	EI9O (+5)	74	EI3KI (New)	39	EI8GS
208	EI9JU (+78)	74	EI8DL	39	EI9HX
207	EI9FBB (+1)	73	EI6IF	39	EI9GLB
204	EI7CC	73	EI3HGB (+14)	38	EI3GYB
191	EI2JD (+2)	72	EI6GGB (New)	38	EI4HH
188	EI3IO	71	EI7GUB	38	EI4KE (+1)
182	EI4CF	71	EI9GGB (+7)	37	EI4BZ
172	EI2KC	70	EI6GF	37	EI5IF
172	EI2GLB	69	EI8GP	37	EI5JQ (+5)
171	EI9KC (+19)	68	EI8JB	37	EI6IL
170	EI1DG (+1)	67	EI1571	37	EI6JK
169	EI4GJB (+8)	65	EI6ARB	37	EI8FH
165	EI0CZ	65	EI8DD	36	EI2KC
165	EI8GS (+8)	64	EI9FV	36	EI9FVB
163	EI6JK	61	EI4IS	35	EI4GNB
163	EI9FVB (+13)	61	EI9JM	33	EI5GM
158	EI3KG (+14)	60	EI6CPB	33	EI6AL
156	EI3GYB	59	EI5DD	32	EI0W
155	EI8FH (+3)	59	EI5HE	32	EI3HA
154	EI7JN	57	EI4GD (+2)	32	EI7GSB
150	EI7JZ (+9)	56	EI7BMB	32	EI8IU
148	EI8IU (+10)	55	EI3HMB (+9)	32	EI8BLB
148	EI9HX	55	EI6GGB	31	EI5GJB
147	EI6IZ	55	EI1509 (+1)		
143	EI9E	54	EI5GB (+1)		Worked Prefixes
142	EI5GM (+39)	54	EI7IQ	1,646	EI4CF (+34)
141	EI4HH (+5)	52	EI8H	1,568	EI9E (+23)
139	EI6AL	52	EI8JW	1,476	EI9JU (+40)
133	EI0W (+13)	51	EI2HRB	1,467	EI7CC (+49)
132	EI7JK (+8)	50	EI6AK	1,421	EI6JK (+62)
130	EI6IL	49	EI1429	1,335	EI8GS (+42)
128	EI9HQ (+14)	49	EI2FSB	1,304	EI2JD (+4)
128	EI9GLB (+21)	48	EI2BWB (New)	1,264	EI7JN (+54)
127	EI6HB	48	EI4GMB	1,229	EI9FBB (+41)
123	EI3CTB (+9)	47	EI3EBB	1,228	EI9KC (+232)
123	EI4GNB	46	EI7GEB	1,218	EI0CZ (+54)
123	EI5JQ (+8)	46	EI9GWB	1,205	EI0W (+69)
122	EI8IQ	45	EI5GN	1,127	EI9HQ (+39)
118	EI5GSB	45	EI9KG (+3)	1,098	EI1DG (+42)
116	EI4BZ	45	EI5ASB (New)	1,086	EI2KC (+55)
115	EI6GHB (+9)	45	EI1665 (New)	1,085	EI4GXB (+13)
111	EI7GSB (+3)	43	EI4DIB	1,057	EI2GLB (+19)
109	EI5IF	43	EI7IS	1,052	EI7JK (+33)
108	EI3HA	43	EI7GBB (+2)	1,003	EI0PL (+144)
108	EI5HV (+9)	42	EI5IX	998	EI3KG (+126)
106	EI3KE (+9)	42	EI7GM	984	EI3CTB (+86)
105	EI3GAB (+4)	41	EI4IR	963	EI3IO (+10)
105	EI7DAR	40	EI3HBB	957	EI7BA (+17)
104	EI4KE (+3)	40	EI9GRB	909	EI2II (+64)
104	EI4GXB	39	EI4HX	889	EI8FH (+18)
103	EI7IX (+9)	38	EI2FS	880	EI9FVB (+47)
103	EI5GJB	37	EI4CN (New)	871	EI7GSB (+58)
101	EI2II	35	EI3GDB	863	EI4BZ (+18)
100	EI5EV (+15)	33	EI7CSB	840	EI6AL (+27)
98	EI0PL	31	EI7GZB	835	EI4GNB (+21)
97	EI8HL	30	EI7CHB	770	EI7JZ (+59)
96	EI8BLB			725	EI9O (+14)
96	EI9CF (+25)		Worked All Zones	713	EI5IF (+9)
95	EI3JB	40	EI0CZ	702	EI3GAB (+78)
95	EI5GUB	40	EI1DG (+1)	699	EI8IU (+92)
94	EI8JR	40	EI2JD	688	EI8IQ (+35)
88	EI8JB (+20)	40	EI2GLB	686	EI3GYB (+31)
87	EI3GD (+43)	40	EI4CF	652	EI4GAB (+33)
87	EI4HQ	40	EI7BA	650	EI8JB (+3)
87	EI9GTB (+20)	40	EI7JN	634	EI5GM (+19)
86	EI9ES	40	EI7JZ	633	EI5GSB (+4)
85	EI9KB (+11)	40	EI9O	604	EI5HV (+215)
84	EI3IS (+1)	40	EI9JU	575	EI3JB (+9)
83	EI7BFB	40	EI9KC (+1)	575	EI9JM (+3)
82	EI3HDB (+12)	40	EI9FBB	587	EI8BLB (+4)
80	EI4GAB	39	EI3IO	581	EI8HL (+28)
79	EI8JK	39	EI3KG	571	EI5GJB (+9)

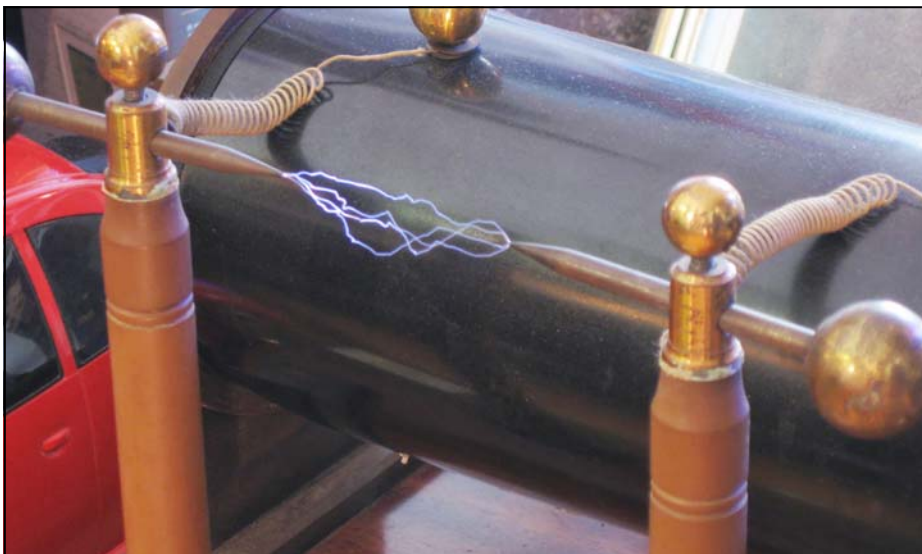
Kingstown Regatta Commemoration

The Kingstown (Dun Laoghaire) Regatta of 1898 was a noteworthy event from a radio point of view, as it was the first time that the results of a sporting event were transmitted by radio. Marconi's own words, describing this event are reproduced in the panel below.

The 100th anniversary of this event was celebrated in style in 1998 by the Wicklow Wireless Society, when the Marconi Centenary Celebrations in Dun Laoghaire included a visit to the club station by Marconi's daughter, Princess Elettra. So, 15 years later, following a suggestion from Pat Herbert, curator of the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth, it was agreed that this important radio milestone should again be marked — this time as a joint effort by the Howth Martello Radio Group, at the Ye Olde Hurdy-Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio in Howth, and South Dublin Radio Club, operating from the Maritime Museum in Dun Laoghaire.

Howth Martello Radio Group

As the regatta races took place off Howth in 1898, the Howth Martello Radio Group thought it fitting that as well as having a station operating from Dun Laoghaire it would be nice to operate from Howth also. The call-sign



Demonstration of Spark Transmitter, similar to that used in 1898, at the museum in Howth.

EI15MAR was valid for the entire month of July and we were QRV for five days in all, logging over 250 QSOs mostly on CW.

We concentrated on the actual anniversary weekend. Although band conditions were poor, we had lots of visits from amateurs and non-amateurs alike. Tony, EI5EM read the IRTS two-metre news from the museum and took call-ins using the EI15MAR call-sign.

Most QSOs were with European stations on 14 and 18 MHz. Best DX was with Oklahoma, Greenland, Japan and New-

foundland. Even if QSOs were difficult to come by, it was a successful event, especially from the social and publicity aspects. If God spares us until 2023, we look forward to commemorating the 125th anniversary of this historic event.

Maritime Museum

The Maritime Institute of Ireland is a volunteer-based not-for-profit organisation established in 1941 in order to raise awareness in Ireland of the importance of maritime links and the need, in wartime or otherwise, to have a strong local maritime service.

The Maritime Museum, based in the former Mariners Church in Dun Laoghaire, is one the Maritime Institute's key projects.

In Marconi's own words ...

"In July [1898] we were requested by a Dublin paper, the Daily Express, to report from the high seas the results and incidents of the Kingstown Regatta. In order to do this we erected a land station, by the kind permission of the harbour-master at Kingstown, in his grounds, where a pole 110ft high was placed.

A steamer, the Flying Huntress, was chartered to follow the racing yachts, the instruments being placed in the cabin. The height of the vertical wire attainable by the mast was 75ft. A telephone was fixed from our land station at Kingstown to the Express office in Dublin, and as the messages came from the ship they were telephoned to Dublin, and published in succeeding editions of the evening papers.

The relative positions of the various yachts were thus surely signalled while the races were in progress, sometimes over a distance of ten miles, and were published long before the yachts returned to harbour.

During the several days the system was in use between the tug and the land station, over seven hundred messages were sent and received, none requiring to be repeated. On trying longer distances it was found that with a height of 80ft on the ship and the same height as already stated on land, it was possible to communicate up to a distance of 25 miles, and it is worthy of note in this case that the curvature of the earth intervened very considerable at such distances between the two positions."

(From Marconi, G., "Wireless Telegraphy", Journal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, quoted in the Mizen Journal 1995)



Tony EI5EM operating at EI15MAR

It was re-opened in 2012, following a significant capital investment. The Museum willingly provided a QTH for SDR's operation, publicising it as a "Marconi Days" event.

Setting up the Antenna

Initial surveys of the QTH highlighted the difficulties we would encounter in setting up a suitable antenna, with little space outside the building and no opening windows. The best option available was to run the antenna from the roof into a small yard at the side of the building, with the antenna lead coming in through a back door.

Jim EI4HH volunteered to climb on to the roof to fix a suitable pulley and then, along with Tony EI7JN and Seán EI7CD, installed a full-size G5RV as a sloper.

The Operation

The Marconi Days event was over three days, from Friday 19th July. Our call sign was **EI15KR**.

Plenty of SDR members turned up to help, however we found that band conditions were disappointing, especially on Friday and Saturday, so the log filled up slowly. On account of the poor conditions, we used CW most of the time — given the event we were commemorating this was most appropriate!

Most QSOs were with European stations, though we did have some Stateside contacts. Many were curious about the "115" in the call sign: the CW operators found it quite a challenge to explain this succinctly!



Paddy Glanville, Jane Glanville, Seamus O'Connor (Maritime Museum), Jim Holohan EI4HH and Padraic Ó Brolcháin (Maritime Museum)

Visitors

Operating in a public place like a museum ensures a steady flow of visitors. Some expressed quite an interest in our operation, providing an opening to explain the hobby of amateur radio. Two students from the Dublin City University, working on a Masters degree on the subject of radiocommunications in Ireland, took the opportunity to take some video of amateur radio in operation, and then interviewed Jim EI4HH about amateur radio.

We also had a visit from a relative of one of the participants in the original Kings-town Regatta operation:

Edwin Glanville, a mathematics and science graduate of TCD, was one of the Marconi company employees at Kings-town in 1898.

His nephew Paddy Glanville and Paddy's wife Jane (see picture above) were delighted to attend the Marconi Days event,



Tony EI7JN on the microphone

given the close family connection with the Marconi experiment.

Edwin Glanville's work for the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company included aerial experiments in a number of locations in England and Ireland: before being involved in the first sports results radio transmission, he was part of the experiment that included the first paid telegram to be transmitted by wireless.

We had an enjoyable long weekend in the Maritime Museum, a very suitable QTH to commemorate a significant event in radio history.

We are very grateful to the museum staff and volunteers who looked after us so well!



Seán EI7CD with Jim EI4HH on the key

Galway Radio Experimenters Club – Finny Walk

In July 2013, GREC assisted with the Lake District Joyce Country Challenge Walk.

This takes place in the hills near Finny and Lough Nafooeey, which is situated between Clonbur and Leenane on the Galway Mayo border.

The walk attracts 50 to 60 people each year and is a charity event supporting the Galway Hospice.

Safety backup is provided by the Galway Mountain Rescue Team.

The event consists of three walks, distance 10km to 30km, varying in difficulty from easy to difficult. The easy walk is a ramble around the Lake and the others take to the hills around the Devils Mother.

The route requires four checkpoints, two on the hills and two in the valley below. The Control point was based at the local community hall situated in Finny village. Frequencies used 2m and 70cm handhelds out on field and a base rig FT8800 with Watson aerial located at the Community hall.

This year 2013 the weather was beautiful and dry, no problem on the hills as dry underfoot and good visibility.

The walkers commenced at 0600. and all completed the walk by 1800. A good days exercise.

The first walker home was local man Dave Joyce who arrived home at 1020, definitely a candidate for the Olympics! He ran the 30km across the hills.

The organisers in Finny provided a marvelous food reception in the hall, plenty homemade soup, sandwiches, cakes, biscuits, all home made by the lovely ladies in charge. Radio operators did not go hungry after their long day.

Operators were: Ciaran EI8IH, Gerry EI8EXB, Damian EI2HG, Tom EI3ER, Joe EI3HM.



Tom EI3ER on station



Damian EI2HG on station



Lovely Ladies of Finny



Joe EI3HM & XYL Maura



Patsy Cahalan in action



The EI13CLAN Challenge

The EI13CLAN Challenge is designed to promote club activity on the bands.

- 1.
2. All clubs/radio groups based and licensed in EI may apply.
3. Any club can apply by email to Dave [EI6AL](#) for a 24 hour slot during which they will have exclusive use of the EI13CLAN call.
4. Operation can be any band, any mode. Additional non club operators can be called on by the club to help out in getting maximum coverage during the 24 hour period.
5. It is the responsibility of the club to organise a schedule that will ensure there is no duplication of operation on any band/mode.
6. On completion of the 24 hours all logs in ADIF format should be emailed to [EI6AL](#) who will consolidate them to one log for upload to Clublog.
7. Points will be awarded for every QSO - 1 point for SSB, 2 points for CW and 3 points for RTTY/Data. Dupes on the same band will not qualify for points.
8. All clubs will be circulated from time to time with point totals listed by club.
9. Clubs can apply at any time during the competition for further 24 hour slots if they wish to attempt to increase their previous scores.
10. As Saturday and Sunday slots will be the most sought after, there is the potential to clash with major competitions that may be scheduled for the requested slot. This raises the potential for an unfair advantage, so certain days/weekends will be notified as unavailable prior to commencement of the competition. Some days will be unavailable for all bands/modes other than WARC, other days may be restricted to certain modes or bands only. The decision on these exclusions will be made by IRTS Contest Manager, Thos [EI2JD](#).
11. Requests for slots that overlap will be dealt with on a first request/first get basis. It is suggested that clubs apply initially for a number of slots of their preference.
12. The competition will commence on **June 1st 2013** and will finish on **December 31st 2013**.
13. On completion of the competition the winner will be the club with the highest score for any single 24 hour slot.

Note: This is a challenge to encourage activity, not a contest. All bands may be used and participants should not call **CQ Contest**.

The award for the winning club will be an **Icom 756PRO** complete with matching PSU and Desk mike which has been generously donated to the Society. This can be put to use by the club in whatever manner the members decide.

The award will be presented to the winning club/group at the IRTS Annual Dinner in March 2014.

6 months in to the use of the call we have 16,300 QSOs in the log and over 38,000 hits on [QRZ.com](#).

The mix is not very well balanced, 60% on CW, 32% on phone and 8% data. This has led to a number of requests for skeds on modes other than CW for those ops looking for the CLAN cert.

I would be delighted to see more activity with the call on phone or data, and would encourage any members who can have a go, or who could contact other ops who would like to get the call on air, to do so.

Dave EI6AL

IRTS Technical Panel

The IRTS has launched a new service for amateur radio operators in Ireland. In our ongoing endeavours to engage more fully with amateurs we have identified an area we feel could be of significant benefit to them. What is it?

The IRTS Technical Panel is a group of volunteers who have expertise in, or experience of, different aspects of amateur radio.

Our aim is to help radio amateurs with technical or operational problems.

What types of problems do we handle?

We don't have a definitive list; however, here are some of the issues that we would have some expertise in:-

Antennas (e.g. best antenna for a given location, matching antennas to rigs)

Station operation (e.g. TVI, RF in the shack)

Sourcing components (e.g. "where can I get toroids?")

IT issues (e.g. logging programs, rig interfacing, LoTW uploads)

How do I ask a question?

Send your question to irtstech@irts.ie. Provide as much information as possible, including details of attempts already made to deal with the issue in question.

How do I get an answer?

Your query via irtstech@irts.ie will be distributed to all the members of the Technical Panel and the resolution to the query e-mailed to you.

The Future ...

In time we plan to compile a database of questions and answers from our correspondence. This database could be the first port of call in resolving a query.

Who is on the technical panel?

Good question ... maybe you?

Currently, we are assembling a panel of experts on all the topics likely to arise.

We need more volunteers; if you can help, please send your details to irtstech@irts.ie.

Jim Holohan EI4HH is the co-ordinator of the Technical Panel.

Contest Corner By Thos Caffrey EI2JD



New Spider Beam at EI8IU

Results: 2m Counties Contest, Spring 2013

Call Sign	Valid QSOs	Counties	Total Score	Location
(a) High Power Portable				
EI EI2DBC/P, Shannon Basin R C (Op's: EI6IB, EI8IU)	39	17	3,706	LEI
EI2WRC/P, Southeastern ARG (Op's: EI2HZB, EI3HDB)	24	12	1,320	CAR
(b) Low Power Portable - Max 10w				
EI EI7GY/P, Joe Ryan	42	19	4,028	LAO
EI7GEB/P, David Morgan	13	9	378	MEA
OEI 2W0CYM/P, Alun Guest-Rowlands	5	5	30	GW
(c) High Power Fixed				
EI EI4CF, Niall Foley	36	16	2,480	GAL
EI0W, Dundalk ARS	38	16	2,384	LOU
OEI MI0RRE, Robert Rantin	36	16	2,480	GAL
EI7IS, Mark Wall	22	10	730	WAT
EI5KF, Gerard Scannell	13	8	376	COR
EI7MRE, Mayo Radio Exp. (Op. EI9JS)	7	5	120	MAY
EI7GIB, Brian Lucey	3	3	39	COR
(d) Low Power Fixed				
EI EI4GXB, Ger McNamara	16	7	448	CLA
EI2NCR, Skerries RC (Op. EI2HX)	13	5	295	DUB
(e) FM Only				
EI EI3FFB, Eamonn Kavanagh	24	10	580	TIP
EI5GGB, Michael O'Callaghan	17	8	288	COR
EI9CJ, Tom McDermott	11	8	288	LOU
(f) SWL				
EI EI1650, Caoimhe McNamara	9	6	204	CLA

Check Logs
EI7DSB, EI7IG

EI Award Winner:
Leading EI Station

OEI Award Winner:
Leading station outside EI

Contest Calendar

All Times UTC

October 2013

12-13	Sat 0800 - Sun 0800	Oceania DX Contest	CW
12-13	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	Scandinavian Activity Contest	SSB
12-	Sat 1600 - Sat 1959	EU Autumn Sprint	CW
19-20	Sat 0000 - Sun 0000	JARTS WW RTTY Contest	RTTY
19-20	Sat 1500 - Sun 1459	Worked All Germany Contest	CW/SSB
26-27	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	CQ Worldwide DX Contest	SSB

November 2013

02-03	Sat 1200 - Sat 1200	Ukrainian DX Contest	CW/SSB
09-10	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	Worked All Europe DX Contest	RTTY
09-10	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	OK/OM DX Contest	CW
16-17	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	LZ DX Contest	CW/SSB
23-24	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	CQ Worldwide DX Contest	CW

December 2013

06-08	Fri 2200 - Sun 1600	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	CW
14-15	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	CW/SSB
21-22	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	OK DX RTTY Contest	RTTY
28-28	Sat 0000 - Sat 1159	RAEM Contest	CW
28-29	Sat 1500 - Sun 1500	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW

January 2014

01	Wed 1400 - 1700	IRTS Winter 80m Counties	CW/SSB
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Brian EI8IU operating EI2SBC/P in the Spring 2m Counties Contest

CQWW DX SSB - EI Results 2012

Call	Category	Score	QSOs	Zones	DXCC
EI7M	Multi-One	9,774,384	5,725	172	635
EI0W	Multi-One	4,590,688	3,391	141	515
EI3KG	SA HP All	3,887,524	3,362	144	442
EI6IZ	SA HP All	398,660	719	75	235
EI7CC	SA HP All	334,944	599	72	216
EI9KC	SA HP All	179,046	359	81	18
EI2CN	SA HP 15m	605,988	1,530	38	143
EI6DX	SA HP 40m	172,608	891	28	88
EI2KC	SA HP 80m	53,760	565	15	65
EI4DW	SO HP All	136,512	314	61	131
EI4HQ	SO LP 15m	81,328	480	22	82
EI4JZ	SO LP 20m	6,164	134	10	36
EI8JX	SA LP All	398,652	776	72	206
EI3CTB	SO LP All	70,560	296	39	108
EI1DG	SO LP All	27,262	134	34	52
EI4CF	SA LP 15m	108,025	306	34	111
EI8FH	SO QRP All	179,838	550	45	161
EI4II	SO QRP 10m	23,520	196	19	37

CQWW WPX SSB - EI Results 2013

Call	Category	Score	QSOs	WPX
EI7M	Multi-One	19,735,254	5,408	1,386
EI2II	SA HP All	3,185,910	1,681	778
EI4DW	SO HP All (T)	350,316	473	333
EI6JK	SO HP 15m	1,262,090	1,054	610
EI4GXB	SA HP 40m (T)	94,860	232	180
EI3CTB	SA LP All (T)	294,975	516	345
EI4CF	SA LP 10m	18,544	92	76
EI1A	SO LP All	2,984,805	1,943	855
EI3HDB	SO LP All (R)	622,856	761	452
EI4GNB	SO LP All	509,848	667	404
EI7CC	SO LP All (T)	72,540	230	186
EI4HQ	SO LP 20m (T)	232,512	420	336
EI4II	SO QRP 20m	215,840	455	355
EI9KC	Checklog			

(R) = Rookie overlay category

(T) = Tribander/Wires overlay category

ARRL SSB DX Contest 2013

	Score	QSOs	Mults	Class	Pwr
EI7M	5,301,000	5,914	300	MSH	HP
EI2CN	1,980,636	2,789	238	MSH	LP
EI9E	1,542,750	2,078	250	MSH	HP
EI3KG	1,285,200	2,060	210	SAH	HP
EI9HX	1,262,202	2,006	211	S	LP
EI4DW	329,295	763	145	S	HP
EI6JK	186,558	1,059	59	S	20m
EI6GGB	39,564	160	84	SAH	HP
EI2KA	30,132	168	62	S	LP
EI4II	17,850	180	35	S	HP
EI3CTB	1,890	37	18	S	15m

ARRL CW DX Contest 2013

	Score	QSOs	Mults	Class	Pwr
EI7M	4,287,825	4,444	323	MSH	HP
EI3KG	642,330	1,114	195	SAH	HP
EI8JX	215,757	559	131	SAL	LP
EI2CN	142,128	341	141	S	HP
EI4II	132,114	474	97	S	HP
EI7CC	103,500	300	115	S	LP
EI4DW	41,811	183	77	S	HP
EI4CF	25,704	128	68	S	LP
EI2KA	9,447	69	47	S	LP
EI2GLB	6,840	76	30	S	20m
EI3CTB	3,045	38	29	S	LP

ARRL RTTY Roundup 2013

	Score	QSOs	Mults	Class	Pwr
EI7M	219,604	1,797	124	M	B
EI7KD	125,552	1,135	112	S	B
EI3GRB	30,720	392	80	M	A
EI2GLB	29,820	360	84	S	B
EI3CTB	240	18	15	S	A

ARRL 10m Contest 2012

	Score	QSOs	Mults	Class	Pwr
EI2CN	159,468	419	97	D	C
EI9E	96,300	313	90	D	C
EI4II	22,344	144	43	A	A
EI4CF	15,730	87	55	A	B
EI7CC	1,232	28	11	C	B
EI6JK	48	6	4	B	C

Congratulations to the multi-operator crew at EI7M in East Cork on their tremendous achievement in being the leading multi-operator station in Europe in five of the biggest world-wide contests over the past twelve months. Great to see the years of persistence and continuous station improvements paying off.

Clearance Sale

Marine ICM 700TY 200w TCVR 1.8-22.50MHz	495.00
AH2B Antenna System	150.00
Wescom/Kyodo 4 M FM tcvr 198ch programmable	150.00
Wescom/Kyodo 2 M FM tcvr 198ch	150.00
Wescom/Kyodo 70cm as above	150.00
Above radios also type approved for commercial use	
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PSU for above 100W used	55.00
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Invertors from 500w to 1.5 Kw Victron 12/24--220VAC	ask
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Racal Signal Generator 00.300KHz -UHF	300.00
Modulation Meter Racal	150.00
Telemetry devices by Zetron for remote control purposes	ask ??
Tone signalling equipment by Sigtron/ Zetron & more -	ask
Tone signalling equipment by Sigtron/ Zetron & more -	ask
Data Transmitting , printing , recieveing equipment	ask
Cushman Signal Generator & test set	500.00
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Vibroplex Morse Key ele.....	ask

Michael 087-2552578



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Icom IC-7700

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South Eastern Amateur Radio Group to operate EI2EEN from Kilmainham

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group in conjunction with Irish artist Sarah Browne and the staff of the Irish Museum of Modern Art will be operating the call EI2EEN from a station set up in the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham from Saturday 12th of October until early 2014.

The station will be transmitting parts of a poem entitled "Something Permanent" which has been specially composed by Irish poet Alice Lyons, remembering the Grey exhibition.

The transmissions will be made in CW and will take place on Saturdays from 12pm to 4pm approx. Admission is free.

CW operators who would like to participate in this project are very welcome to do so.

For more information about this event please contact:

Mark EI7IS on 087 6302026
or Sean EI2HZB on 083 1379764.

All future SEARG meetings will start at 9pm sharp.

The October meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford on Monday 28th of October at 9.00 p.m.

The meeting will be preceded by a committee meeting at 8.00 pm sharp and as always new members are very welcome.

For up-to-date news about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and it's

EI DXCC Listings (as at Sept 30th 2013)

Mixed

365	EI8H	213	EI7GL
353	EI7CC	208	EI4GJB
351	EI6S	206	EI4BZ
348	EI6FR	202 EI4HH (+7)	
345	EI8EM	200	EI6IL
343	EI7BA	188	EI2CH
340	EI2GS	186	EI7II
326	EI3IO	186	EI8IU
318	EI9FBB	185	EI8FH
313	EI9O	185	EI9E
308 EI5GM (+7)		178	EI3HA
306	EI2HY	177	EI9FE
303	EI4II	160	EI2II
301 EI2GLB (+35)		160	EI6HB
295	EI8FH	155	EI5IF
294	EI2JD	142	EI9HQ
293 EI2CR (+24)		131	EI5GSB
287	EI9JF	130	EI6AL
283	EI6IZ	124 EI5FQB (+ 2)	
269	EI8GS	105	EI1CS
269 EI9FVB (+12)		102	EI4DJB
264	EI4BZ	101	EI3IP
262	EI2GX	101	EI4GNB
243	EI8IU	100	EI3GAB
240	EI1DG		
234 EI9GLB (+6)			
230	EI4GXB		
229 EI7JZ (+36)			
228 EI7GY (+6)			
224 EI4HH (+15)			
210	EI6IL		
209	EI7JN		
205	EI6AL		
196	EI5IF		
192	EI9E		
191	EI6HB		
182	EI3HA		
167	EI4IR		
150	EI9HQ		
135	EI9CF		
131	EI5GSB		
129	EI5GUB		
128	EI8HA		
127	EI9CJ		
125 EI5FQB (+ 3)			
124 EI7IG (New)			
115	EI5JQ		
101	EI7JQ		
101	EI8JB		
100	EI3CTB		
100	EI3GAB		
100	EI4HQ		

Phone

351	EI7CC	278 EI7BA (+ 4)	
348	EI6S	207	EI1DG
345	EI8EM	177 EI6FR (+8)	
340	EI7BA	163 EI2GLB (+10)	
338	EI2GS	130	EI8FH
333 EI6FR (+3)		121	EI6HB
331	EI8AR	104	EI5IF
309 EI3GV (+6)			
301	EI9FBB		
300	EI8AU		
290	EI4GK		
278	EI2JD		
269	EI8GS		
269 EI9FVB (+12)			
264	EI9HX		
241 EI2GLB (+25)			
234 EI9GLB (+6)			
225	EI9JF		
217 EI7JZ (+32)			

RTTY/Digital

278 EI7BA (+ 4)	
207	EI1DG
177 EI6FR (+8)	
163 EI2GLB (+10)	
130	EI8FH
121	EI6HB
104	EI5IF
160m	
238 EI7BA (+1)	
212	EI3IO
135	EI6IZ
133	EI9FBB
120	EI2JD
80m	
304	EI6S
287	EI7BA
228	EI9FBB
164	EI2JD

142	EI3IO	187	EI2JD
140 EI6FR (+5)		175	EI6IZ
129	EI6IZ	163 EI2GLB (+31)	
119	EI4BZ	160 EI9FVB (+21)	
103	EI8GS	152 EI7GY (+20)	
		146	EI9JF
		135	EI8IU
		129	EI3IO
		127	EI4GJB
		127	EI6AL
		115 EI1DG (+1)	
		108 EI3GV (+3)	
		108	EI4BZ
		101 EI7JZ (New)	

40m

309 EI7BA (+1)	
242	EI9FBB
207 EI6FR (+10)	
199	EI2JD
190	EI6IZ
185	EI3IO
177	EI9JF
151 EI2GLB (+11)	
139	EI4BZ
129	EI8GS
123	EI9E
117	EI7GL
113 EI7GY (+7)	
111 EI7JZ (New)	
105	EI9FVB

30m

320	EI7BA
234	EI9FBB
223	EI3IO
200	EI6IZ
198 EI6FR (+6)	
167	EI9JF
145 EI7GY (+14)	
122	EI2JD
120	EI4BZ
107	EI8IU
101 EI2GLB (New)	

20m

337	EI7BA
323 EI6FR (+3)	
301	EI9FBB
255	EI2JD
251	EI3IO
222 EI9FVB (+16)	
217	EI9JF
211	EI8GS
206	EI6IZ
198 EI2GLB (+21)	
195	EI4BZ
179 EI1DG (+2)	
171	EI7JN
158 EI7JZ (+21)	
154	EI9E
153 EI7GY (+17)	
145	EI6HB
144	EI4GJB
140	EI8IU

10m

130 EI3GV (+4)	
129 EI9GLB (+ 1)	
122	EI5IF
121	EI3HA
112	EI8IQ
112	EI9HQ
109	EI4GK
105	EI2II
104 EI4HH (New)	
102	EI5GSB
102	EI6AL
100 EI5FQB (New)	
17m	
332	EI7BA
274	EI9FBB
246 EI6FR (+12)	

15m

324 EI7BA (+1)	
280 EI6FR (+6)	
260	EI9FBB
228	EI2JD
204	EI3IO
194 EI4BZ (+ 3)	
183	EI2GLB
182	EI9FVB
181	EI6IZ
181	EI8GS
170	EI9E
158 EI1DG (+1)	
140 EI7GY (+15)	
139 EI7JZ (+19)	
136	EI6HB
129	EI8IU
123	EI6AL
120	EI4GJB
116 EI9GLB (+3)	
113 EI3GV (+1)	
109	EI7JN
106 EI4HH (New)	
105	EI9JF
103	EI4GK

12m

310 EI7BA (+ 4)	
227	EI9FBB
144 EI2JD (+1)	
142 EI9FVB (+24)	
114 EI2GLB (+13)	
110 EI6FR (+3)	
109	EI6AL
107 EI7GY (New)	
106	EI3IO
102	EI8IU
100	EI4GJB
100	EI6IZ

10m

296	EI7BA
257	EI3IO
218	EI9FBB
194	EI2JD
191 EI2GLB (+17)	
191 EI6FR (+2)	
182	EI4BZ
171	EI8GS
149 EI4HH (+23)	
148 EI9FVB (+9)	
147	EI9E
144	EI7GL
137 EI1DG (+1)	
131	EI4GK
129	EI6IZ
120	EI6AL
114 EI7GY (New)	
112	EI4GJB

111	EI9CJ
105	EI6HB
104 EI3GV (+1)	
102 EI7JZ (New)	
101	EI2II

102 EI2GLB (New)	
101	EI3EBB

2m

113	EI4DQ
See www.arrl.org/dxcc	

6m

160	EI3IO
120	EI9FBB
111	EI7GL
107	EI2JD
103 EI7BA (New)	

DXCC Honor Roll

Mixed

340	EI6FR/348
338	EI7CC/353
338	EI7BA/343
337 EI8H/365 (+3)	
337	EI8EM/345
332	EI6S/351
332	EI2GS/340

Phone

337	EI8EM/345
336	EI7CC/351
335	EI7BA/340
331	EI6S/348

CW

331 EI7BA/335 (New)	
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DXCC Challenge

2,810 EI7BA (+ 12)	
2,217	EI9FBB
1,850	EI3IO
1,767 EI6FR (+53)	
1,705	EI2JD
1,654	EI7CC
1,492	EI6IZ
1,318 EI2GLB (+158)	
1,139	EI4BZ
1,149 EI9FVB (+131)	
1,051 EI7GY (New)	
1,018	EI9JF

DXCC Single Band Status (30/09/13)

		160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	2
10	EI9FBB	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	-
10	EI3IO	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	-
10	EI2JD	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	-
10	EI7BA	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	-
9	EI6IZ	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	-	-
8	EI6FR	-	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	-	-
8	EI2GLB	-	-	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	-
7	EI4BZ	-	80	40	30	20	17	15	-	10	-	-
7	EI7GY	-	-	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	-	-
6	EI9FVB	-	-	40	-	20	17	15	12	10	-	-
5	EI4GJB	-	-	-	-	20	17	15	12	10	-	-
5	EI6AL	-	-	-	-	20	17	15	12	10	-	-
5	EI7JZ	-	-	40	-	20	17	15	-	10	-	-
5	EI8GS	-	80	40	-	20	-	15	-	10	-	-
5	EI8IU	-	-	-	30	20	17	15	12	-	-	-
5	EI9JF	-	-	40	30	20	17	15	-	-	-	-
4	EI1DG	-	-	-	-	20	17	15	-	10	-	-
4	EI3GV	-	-	-	-	20	17	15	-	10	-	-
4	EI9E	-	-	40	-	20	-	15	-	10	-	-
3	EI4GK	-	-	-	-	20	-	15	-	10	-	-
3	EI4HH	-	-	-	-	20	-	15	-	10	-	-
3	EI6HB	-	-	-	-	20	-	15	-	10	-	-
3	EI7GL	-	-	40	-	-	-	-	-	10	6	-
2	EI2II	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	10	-	-
2	EI7JN	-	-	-	-	20	-	15	-	-	-	-
2	EI9GLB	-	-	-	-	20	-	15	-	-	-	-
1	EI3EBB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
1	EI3HA	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	EI4DQ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
1	EI5FQB	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	EI5GSB	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	EI5IF	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	EI6S	-	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	EI8IQ	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	EI9CJ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-
1	EI9HQ	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
		160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	2

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Relays have had mod done to supply a voltage across the contacts to help clean them.
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€500.00 o.n.o

Cushcraft A4S. 20 15 10m band beam.
Dismantled but complete, all parts have marked for re assembly. Traps are dry and it has been stored in the dry.
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€250.00 o.n.o

FT-900c Transceiver
Non ATU version but fitted with Collins SSB filter
Fully working with user manual and MH31 Mic
General condition good but with some light marks on top case and slight wear on front panel€400.00
Contact: Dominic 086 8941900
Email: ei9jsdominic@gmail.com

For Sale

FiFi SDR receiver with preselector, Bonito SDR software for FiFi, drivers and USB cable. Receives HF Amateur bands. €100. Email: alanpwarren@gmail.com.

Wanted

Tokyo Hy Power linear amp H-45B 45W. Email alanpwarren@gmail.com.

Wanted:

Collins ART-13 Transmitter, With LF osc if possible.
BC348 Receiver, model number not important,
As few mods to these items.
Collins 516F-2 Power unit. Case not essential
These are looked for by a genuine collector. Any help in finding these items very much appreciated.
Contact
Jim, EI2BB, 087 2612428/057 8648589.

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Sunday 3rd November 2013

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Pat. EI6HF. mobile..085-7640044

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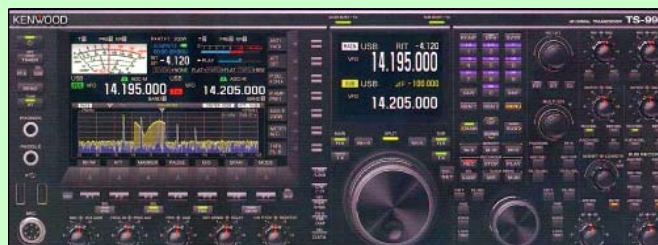
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